THE NEW
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ISRAEL GETS MORE MUNITIONS FROM U.S., STEPS UP GAZA OFFENSIVE

Heavy fighting raged overnight and into Sunday across Gaza, as Israel pressed ahead with its attack backed by fresh munitions sent by the US

TEL AVIV UNDER INT'L PRESSURE FOR CEASEFIRE

Israel has faced rising international outrage and calls for a permanent ceasefire after the killing of thousands of Palestinian civilians. Nearly 85 per cent of Gaza's 2.3 million people have been displaced within the besieged territory, where UN agencies say there is no safe place to flee. US helped its ally by vetoing the Security Council's efforts to end fighting

WAR TO GO ON UNTIL HAMAS ELIMINATED: BIBI

- Israel's PM Netanyahu said on Sunday he had told the leaders of France, Germany, and other countries: "You cannot on the one hand support the elimination of Hamas, and on other pressure us to end the war, which would prevent the elimination of Hamas"
- UN Secretary-General Guterres said he would appeal for a ceasefire

$100m

WORTH OF TANK AMMUNITIONS HAVE BEEN SOLD BY THE U.S. TO ISRAEL

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Rajasthan and Delhi Police arrive in Jaipur on Sunday with an accused in the murder of Karni Sena president Sukhdev Singh Gogamedi | PTI

Jt police team arrests two shooters for Karni Sena chief's murder

RAJESH ASNANI & UJWAL JALALI @ Jaipur/New Delhi

RAJASTHAN police have arrested two culprits in the murder of Karni Sena chief Sukhdev Singh Gogamedi in Chandigarh in a Saturday night joint operation with the Delhi police.

The two shooters, named Nitin Fauji and Rohit Rathore, have been brought to Jaipur along with co-accused Ramveer. So far, four have been detained in connection with the murder of Gogamedi, who was shot dead on December 5 in his house. The two believed to be shooters were planning to flee to Nepal, police said.

ADG Crime Dinesh M N in a statement said both Rohit and Nitin were found hiding in a room above a liquor vend. Jaipur police commissioner Biju George Joeseph had deployed seven from his team for the operation.

The police decided to wait until midnight for the operation to ensure minimal risk. The police apprehended both the shooters and their accomplice Udham Singh who assisted them in their escape.

A senior Delhi Police officer said that the Crime Branch was tracking the shooters movement for the last 72 hours after the Rajasthan Police approached them.

"Rajasthan Police provided intel that the shooters, after killing Gogamedi took a taxi to Didwana in Rajasthan. From there, they boarded a bus to Delhi," Special CP RS Yadav told reporters. The shooters had concealed their weapons after the murder. However, they were using mobile phone during their escape which helped in tracing them.

> **The shooters and their facilitators have been arrested in the first phase. The next phase is about reaching out to the mastermind and conspirators**
>
> Joseph, Jaipur police commissioner

Police interrogation has revealed that Nitin Fauji is from Mahendragarh in Haryana and Rohit Rathod from Nagaur district in Rajasthan. They were in contact with gangster Rohit Godara following the murder.

Simultaneously their handler Virendra Charan provided them with logistics, weapons and money.

Tribal leader Vishnu Deo Sai is C'garh CM

Swearing-in likely on December 12-13 with two deputy CMs; former CM Raman Singh may become Speaker

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

VISHNU Deo Sai, 59, a senior tribal leader and former Union minister, will be the next chief minister of Chhattisgarh after he was elected the leader of the BJP legislature party in Raipur on Sunday.

Former chief minister Raman Singh proposed Sai's name, which was seconded by state BJP president Arun Sao and senior MLA Brijmohan Agrawal at the party state office. Singh hinted that he might assume the responsibility as a Speaker of the state Assembly and there could be a possibility of two deputy chief ministers.

After getting elected unopposed as CM-designate, Sai met Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan at the Rajbhavan to stake claim to form the government with 54 members in the newly elected House in Chhattisgarh. On Sunday evening, Chhattisgarh Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan extended the formal invitation to Sai to form government.

Sai will be the second tribal chief minister of Chhattisgarh after late Ajit Jogi, who was the first Congress CM of the state in November 2000.

"Our priority will be to fulfil the promises made in our manifesto during the next five years. To begin with, the BJP government will approve the bonus payment of the two years for the paddy growers on December 25 and constructing houses for the 18 lakh poor who remained deprived under the PM Awas Yojana during the last five years," the CM-designate told the media persons.

Chhattisgarh CM-designate Vishnu Deo Sai (R) meets Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan to stake claim to form government, at the Raj Bhavan on Sunday | ANI

Ex-CM proposes

The proposal to elect Sai as the legislature party leader was moved by former chief minister Raman Singh, which was seconded by Arun Sao and senior leader Brijmohan Agrawal

Speaking to reporters, Sai admitted that he has his work cut out as the state's financial health is weak, for which he blamed the previous Congress-led government.

Sai hails from Bagiya village in Sarguja division, where the BJP snatched all 14 seats from the Congress.

According to BJP sources, the oath-taking ceremony may take place either on December 12 or 13, depending on the availability of Prime Minister Narendra Mod.

The BJP had not projected anyone as the party's CM face this time during the assembly elections and the party sought votes in the name of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Selection part of grand strategy for LS polls

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

THE decision to make tribal leader Vishnu Deo Sai Chhattisgarh chief minister was part of a strategy to boost the BJP's performance in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. Known for his sharp organisational skills, the 59-year-old has wide acceptance in the tribal communities. According to political observers, his selection as CM was in-principle made when Union home minister and BJP's principal strategist Amit Shah told voters that Sai would get a 'big job' after elections.

Chhattisgarh shares it border with Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana. "In all these states, tribals have considerable presence. After the election of President of India, the BJP's political think-tank with consent of PM Modi had played the second masterstroke to woo the tribal community ahead of the LS election by appointing a prominent tribal face as CM in Chhattisgarh, which has more than 7.5% of India's total tribal population," said a senior BJP functionary. He added that PM Modi's vision is to make the tribal vote bank attached with the saffron party on the basis of the work done for the community as well as the representation accorded to tribal leaders.

In Chhattisgarh, the BJP almost swept in tribal areas in the assembly election by winning 17 out of the 29 seats reserved for ST candidates for the 90-member Assembly. Working through a national plan for the ST population, the BJP, taking a lesson from the setback in tribal-dominated seats in 2018, has made its concerns and works visible and known among the ST people over the past five years. With the appointment of Sai, the saffron party has further bolstered its image of being the champion of tribal causes.

EXPRESS READ

I.N.D.I.A bloc to meet in Delhi on December 19

New Delhi: "The 4th meeting of the leaders of I.N.D.I.A parties will be held on Tuesday December 19 in New Delhi at 3 pm," Congress General Secretary Jairam Ramesh said on 'X' on Sunday. The parties intend to move forward with the unity theme - "Main Nahin, Hum" (We, Not Me) - as a counter to PM Narendra Modi at the meeting, a senior Congress leader said.

Govt high schools to get telescopes & microscopes

Bengaluru: To promote 'Science for All', the Karnataka government on Sunday announced that government high schools will have access to microscopes and telescopes to encourage scientific temper among children. Minister for Minor Irrigation, Science, and Technology NS Boseraju has instructed officials to design a new policy 'Provide Access to Telescopes' (PAT). P4

Details sought from Sahu on cash: J'khand Cong

Ranchi: Jharkhand Congress in-charge Avinash Pandey on Sunday said clarification has been sought from party MP Dheeraj Sahu in connection with the recovery of huge cash from premises linked to him. Pandey clarified that is it a private matter of Sahu and the party has nothing to do with it. "Since he is Congress MP, he should make a statement about how such a big amount of money came to him," Pandey said.

COLOURFUL START

CM Siddaramaiah inaugurates 'Namma Jaatre' folk festival at Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Illegal towers: CM directs officials to impose fines on errant telecom firms

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah has directed the officials to impose fines on the firms that have set up mobile towers illegally across the State.

Siddaramiah issued this direction after receiving a letter from former Congress MLA Ramesh Babu, who suggested that the State government should impose fines on telecom service providers for installing towers illegally. "The State can generate Rs 7,000 crore through this," he stated.

Ramesh said as per Karnataka Installation of New Telecommunication Infrastructure Towers Regulations 2019, installation charges up to Rs 1 lakh are imposed in BBMP limits, Rs 50,000 in other mahanagara palike limits, Rs 35,000 in city municipal limits and Rs 15,000 in gram panchayat limits. In BBMP limits alone, there are around 8,000 such towers and 48,000 across the State.

Ramesh stated that many of them have been set up without paying installation charges, causing a big loss to the State's exchequer. He appealed to Siddaramaiah to direct the officials to collect the installation charges along with other taxes. He also pointed out that other states collect fees up to Rs 2 lakh for mobile towers. Karnataka should increase the fees.

4 students die as car plunges into drain near Chikkaballapur

V VELAYUDHAM @ Chikkaballapur

FOUR college students died when the car in which they were travelling plunged into an open drain near Kelagina Thotta on the outskirts of Chikkaballapur around 10.30pm on Saturday.

The deceased have been identified as Tagore, 21, a resident of Chintamani, Vasanth, 20, and Aryan,19, from Chikkaballapur, and Pavan, 20, a resident of Hebbal in Bengaluru. They were friends and studying in different colleges in Bengaluru, Superintendent of Police DL Nagesh told *The New Indian Express*.

Preliminary investigations revealed that the boys were going to Chikkaballapur from Bengaluru. Rash and negligent driving by Pavan could be the reason for the accident. The house of one of the boys is close to the spot where the accident occurred, Nagesh further said.

Drivers and passengers of other vehicles alerted the police after seeing the car in the roadside drain. A police team from Chikkaballapur was sent to the spot immediately. Policemen along with some personnel from Fire and Emergency Services and villagers retrieved the bodies from the mangled car, he said.

The car plunged into an open drain near Kelagina Thotta on the outskirts of Chikkaballapur | EXPRESS

Mayawati names nephew Akash Anand as heir apparent

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

IN an open endorsement to 'dynastic politics', BSP chief Mayawati on Sunday declared her nephew Akash Anand as her political heir at an all-India meeting of the party here.

Twenty-seven-year-old Akash, an MBA from London, has been active in the party since 2017 and, at present, he is a national coordinator. He is the son of Mayawati's younger brother Anand Kumar.

Although the press statement issued after the meeting doesn't mention the development, the party's lone MLA in UP, Uma Shankar Singh, confirmed that the development.

BSP's Shahjahanpur district unit chief Udayveer Singh told reporters that Akash has been declared the 'uttaradhikari' by Mayawati.

BSP MLC Bhim Rao Ambedkar also confirmed the announcement. "We have got a youth leader in Akash Anand. In states where the party organisation is weak, Anand will be strengthening it," he said.

"Anand has been associated with the BSP since 2017. During the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, he addressed a rally in Agra," Ambedkar said. According to a BSP statement, Mayawati called upon party workers to increase the party's support base.

Toy cluster at Koppal was a bad idea, opine experts

ASHWINI M SRIPAD @ Bengaluru

INDIA'S first toy cluster project at Koppal is yet to take off as expected. The foundation stone for this ambitious project was laid three years ago with much fanfare.

In 2021, the State government, in association with a leading toy manufacturing company, initiated the project by signing six MoUs with toy makers and suppliers. But only three units, two from Belagavi-based Aequs Private Ltd. which has set up the cluster, have started operations.

Since the project was launched during the BJP rule and is being managed by a private firm, the Congress government seems to be not showing much interest in promoting it. However, industry experts say the location selected is not ideal for the toy cluster. The then CM BS Yediyurappa laid the foundation stone for Koppal Toy Cluster (KTC) in January 2021.

Spread over 400 acres of land, the cluster can accommodate at least 100 manufacturing units, generating over 25,000 direct and over one lakh indirect employment opportunities. After three years, only three units have started operations with a few hundred workers.

Former CM Jagadish Shettar said it is the responsibility of the company, which had purchased land to set up the toy cluster, to bring more companies. As industries minister in the Yediyurappa cabinet, Shettar played a significant role in bringing the project to Koppal. "It is not government land, the company purchased over 400 acres from local farmers directly. The government only gave tax concession and licences," he said. Shettar, who is now with the Congress party, said he is not aware of the present status of the project.

"Looks like the project has failed. It is the private company which has to promote it," said Basavaraj Rayareddi, former minister and Congress MLA from Yelaburga assembly constituency in Koppal district. He had attended the foundation laying ceremony. P4

SC TO PRONOUNCE ART 370 VERDICT TODAY

The SC is scheduled to pronounce its verdict on petitions challenging the abrogation of the provisions of Article 370

ALMANAC TODAY
Monday: 11/12/2023 **Year:** Shobhakruta **Ayana:** Dakshinayana
Ritu: Sharad **Masa:** Karthika **Paksha:** Krishna **Tithi:** Chaturdasi 5.16 am
Nakshatra: Vishaka 11.24 am **Moon in** Dhanur Rashi **Rahukaala:** 07:30 am to 09:00 am
Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm **Yamaganda:** 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER MIN 20°C | MAX 28°C
FORECAST Overcast.

Sunrise 6.31 am | Sunset 5.54 pm | Moonrise 4.44 am | Moonset 4.24 pm

2 decades on, market ready but vendors on streets

Old market in Cox Town built in 1999; new complex readied in 2020 but not handed over to tenants; health of residents impacted

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

RESIDENTS of Cox Town struggle to walk on MM Road, while the health of patients in the local maternity hospital is impacted due to the unhygenic surroundings caused by the sale of fish, poultry and vegetables on the footpath outside. This has been the scene for the past 24 years, with the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike yet to allot stalls to tenanted shopkeepers of the old market space in the newly built one.

What has really upset the locals is that the new complex was readied in 2020 but not handed over to the tenants of the original complex. Lack of power connection is stated to be the reason.

The newly built market in Cox Town which is yet to be opened | EXPRESS

Muniraj Sriramulu, organising secretary of Eshanya Bengalurina Nagarikara Kalyana Mahadvedika, a federation of 25 resident welfare associations in and around the area, told TNIE, "The 68-year-old Cox Town Market was planned for renovation in 1999 and in the same year, asbestos sheds were built by BBMP to allow shopkeepers to run their business nearby. It was finally completed in 2020 and has 27 shops, but the handover of the new shops has not yet happened." Of the shops, 21 need to be handed over to the old tenants.

Residents are bearing the brunt of the delay, Sriramulu said. "The health of mothers and newborns will definitely be impacted. Also, people park vehicles on the roads to purchase from footpath stalls, causing a major traffic snarl here. Residents have repeatedly approached MLA S Raghu and BBMP officials but there is no progress," he added.

President of Cox Town Residents' Forum Chandrika Raju added, "There is no footpath for the public to walk on, and senior citizens have to struggle. A resident, Jayaraj Reddy, filed a petition in the High Court against the BBMP, permitting shops on footpaths the year they were built (1999) and the court ruled in his favour. However, BBMP allowed the shops to continue with business, in violation of the verdict."

A BBMP official told TNIE, "The new complex has not yet got an electricity connection. We handed over payment to Bescom recently, and hope to get power supply within two or three weeks. After that happens, we will immediately go ahead with the allotment process."

> **The 68-year-old Cox Town Market was planned for renovation in 1999 and in the same year, asbestos sheds were built by BBMP to allow vendors to run their business. The work was completed in 2020, but the new shops have not been handed over to the vendors**
> – Muniraj Sriramulu of Eshanya Bengalurina Nagarikara Kalyana Mahadvedika

FEB 2024 IS FRESH DEADLINE

Transport dept to publicise new number plates

AKNISREE KARTHIK @Bengaluru

THE number of vehicles beng fitted with High Security Registration Number Plates (HSRP) has gradually been picking pace. While November 17 was the due date for the same, it was extended to February 17, 2024 owing to only 3 lakh vehicles being registered of the 2 crore in the city.

However, the state transport department is confident that all the 2 crore vehicles that were registered before April 2019 would fall in line before the extended deadline. They are also gearing up to create publicity and awareness about HSRP among residents.

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has mandated the affixation of HSRP number plates in all old vehicles. One of the primary reasons was to prevent misuse of vehicles by changing number plates by easily removing them. However, HSRP number plates cannot be removed once fixed as they are affixed using revets, thereby eliminating any scope for the exchange of number plates.

Speaking to TNIE, Mallikarjuna C, Additional Transport Commissioner (Enforcement South) said, "All the vehicles that were registered before April 2019 should mandatorily be fitted with HSRP number plates. The state government issued a notification in this regard and November 17 was the deadline."

Officials of the state transport department stated that people who had objected to permission granted only to HSRP manufacturers authorized by the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) to fix the plates had approached the High Court. They admitted that it was due to lack of publicity given to the public about HSRP installation.

Further, Mallikarjuna said they will soon be getting a nod from the state government to take up wide publicity. "With the RTOs that are located across the state, we will create awareness about the importance of HSRP to motivate people to consider it seriously. After the government nod, we will start giving wide publicity through advertisements," he said.

He said the numbers are picking up and added that over 3 lakh vehicles were fitted with HSRPs up till November 17. The numbers have crossed 7 lakh till the first week of December. Post publicity, the number are expected to rise.

An artiste at Namma Jatre in Bengaluru; (Right) Chief Minister Siddaramaiah inaugurates Namma Jatre in front of Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

More offences in death penalty list in new laws: Lawyer

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

"INDIA'S three draft bills- Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (New Penal Bill), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (New Procedure Bill) and Bharatiya Sakshya Bill, 2023 (New Evidence Bill) - that seek to replace the country's major criminal laws have added more offences to which the 'death penalty' be given," said Aditya Sondhi, Supreme Court Advocate and former Additional Advocate General of Karnataka.

He was sharing his views on an online panel discussion titled- *'The New Criminal Laws-A Boon or a Bane' organised* by the Centre for the Protection of Democratic Rights and Secularism that was held on the occasion of International Human Rights Day on Sunday. He lamented that at times when many countries have done away with the death penalty, new criminal laws have added more offences to which capital punishment can be awarded.

In the exercise of introducing a new criminal law regimen, the fundamental question is whether India needs the death penalty, Sondhi questioned, adding, "There are many countries that are not 'soft' states that have done away with death penalties. However, in the new drafts, there are many offences to which death penalty can be awarded."

He said he couldn't see any boon in the new criminal laws and added that 'sedition' has got a back door entry and anything can be categorized under it. He also pointed out that marital rapes, which many women groups are fighting for and Section 377 do not find any mention in the new drafts. There was no need to reinvent the wheel and existing laws could have been reformed through amendments, he opined.

GERIATRICS

CITY LACKS SKILLED ELDERLY CARE NETWORK

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

TISHA ATAL @Bengaluru

THE elderly in need of support of skilled caregivers is on the rise in Bengaluru but the city has been failing to cater to the raising demand.

Ramani Sundaram, deputy director of Nightingales Medical Trust (NMT) stated that one in five senior citizens require caregiving services. Centres in Bengaluru that are providing in-house services are 80-85 percent occupied currently and people in need of assistance are increasing in the waiting list.

Over 10 percent of the city's population are elderly, many of whom are suffering from chronic medical conditions, and a larger population suffering suffering from dementia. Many of them who live alone or have no one to look after them are in dire need of caregivers, Ramani added.

It was noted that certified caregivers were much better trained for their jobs and were able to handle different patients in a calm manner. Meanwhile, Dr Radha S Murthy, managing trustee of NMT explained why there weren't sufficient enough caregivers in the city. "The younger generation are initially interested in taking up caregiving jobs including examining senior citizens, conducting recreational activities for them and ensuring timely medicine intake. But within 3-5 years they look for alternate opportunities, with caregiving taking a toll on their mental health eventually." Potential international opportunities can encourage them to continue in the profession, she said. Though dozens of centres advertise their expertise in caregiving at affordable prices, they still lack skilled caregiver support, she added.

Rakshitha (26), a caregiver said she considers caregiving as 'seva'. She says, she finds it difficult to interact with senior citizens initially, as some of them are friendly while others are not, though it gets better with time. "I end up working eight hours every day, sometimes catering up to four people a day. The challenges of caregiving lie in taking care of daily chores like giving medicines, assisting while bathing or using the toilet."

India turning blind eye to artistes: VC

PURAN CHOUDHARY @Bengaluru

THE entire education system through the National Education Policy (NEP-2020) has been pushed towards outcome-based education, however, regulatory framework should also be based on the outcome, said Sanjay Gupta, Vice Chancellor of the World University of Design (WUD).

He added that currently, the framework is 'process-based' which is a big hurdle in the system. "NEP is a positive move, trying to make a graduate's knowledge more holistic and skilful such as communication, and practical experience but the process is still being set up by different boards," Gupta told TNIE.

Pointing out another issue, the VC briefly explained that applied research in design is not considered by the government and only published research stands valid. "WUD offers courses that are aptitude-based and have a niche now. Parents are also much more accepting of them as they are offered at the university level and offer several job opportunities," said Gupta.

He explained that this is a good sign as recently the Union government announced an art, architecture and design Biennale which will be held from December 9-15 in Delhi. He said although NEP promotes innovation, design is still thought of as things related to 'aesthetics' but the subject inclines more about how things work. "India has so many craftsmen, singers, dancers and theatre artistes who contribute largely to the creative economy but we turn a blind eye. Our manufacturing is based on making copies which cater to production vendors and compete on cost with other countries. In certain sectors, we have reached a point where we are making designs but it's still for other countries," Gupta explained.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

11th December: The whole solar system is in a state of excitement as a series of powerful planets form vibrant celestial relationships. But what exactly is the outcome? Most astrologers are able to predict uncertainty: that's easy! However, when we look at world affairs, it's extremely difficult to be more precise. Anything could happen!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
Looking a few days ahead we can see that Mercury, planet of communication, is about to make its lively way into a region of your chart closely related to your finances. The moment is coming when you should lay plans for abundant future prosperity.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
There seems to be some sort of muddle, possibly caused by the Moon's relationship to other significant, if confused, planets. You may either postpone important engagements or, alterna-tively, approach them with considerably more determination than usual.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
In spite of your open and chatty reputation, you are about to enter a more secretive phase, one when peace, quiet and seclusion will be of increasing importance to your general well-being. Only when you have shared your plans with friends will you see whether they are ever likely to come to fruition.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
In many ways you are dealing with the legacy of the past. Yet, although it's inevitable that you should feel nostalgia for what has been, you would be advised to get on with planning the future. I know you're concerned about losing your roots, but you needn't be.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
There seems to be a great deal going on which is difficult, if not downright impossible, to explain. You may have to accept the fact that it might be another few days before a number of questions can be answered. Patience is a virtue you would do well to acquire!

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
You should now be back on form and determined to alter the pattern of your life. Lunar aspects may be signalling stress but that could be a good thing - inspiring you to exceed your previous best. There is someone who is waiting for you to get in touch with them and, when you do, your life could change.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
Current challeng-ing planetary aspects may also offer you the opportunity to form new relationships and emphasise the neglected so-cial dimension. You're such a perfectionist that it doesn't take much to disturb your equilibrium but the Sun's pass-age through a challenging region of your chart demon-strates the simple truth that the answer to your questions may lie in someone else's hands.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
Now you really are heading for a pleasant romantic period. Relations with children and younger family members are set to improve and cultural pursuits are likely to take up more of your time. But when it comes to social arrangements, I suspect you'll be bogged down in the details.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
Keep your options open this week and do everything you can to bring underlying tensions to the fore. As a matter of interest, it does seem essential that you make it a priority to deal with financial issues. Otherwise you could end up paying more than you should.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
The odds may be stacked against you today. Yet do not despair - all is not lost. It may be time for one of those clever tactical retreats that results in your position being stronger than ever. Your strength lies in your ability to construct firm foundations.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Even if you're an ambitious profes sional Aquarian, family and dom es tic affairs will as sume a high priority. At work you'll find other people looking to you for security, irritating as it may be to feel you are being depended upon. Remember, it's not necessarily that you need to be free. It may be enough merely to feel free.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
There is not long to go before emotional secrets are brought to a head. It will be a great relief all round when what was once unspeakable can be discussed in an atmosphere of happiness and harmony. And I have a feeling that you are just the person to do it.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

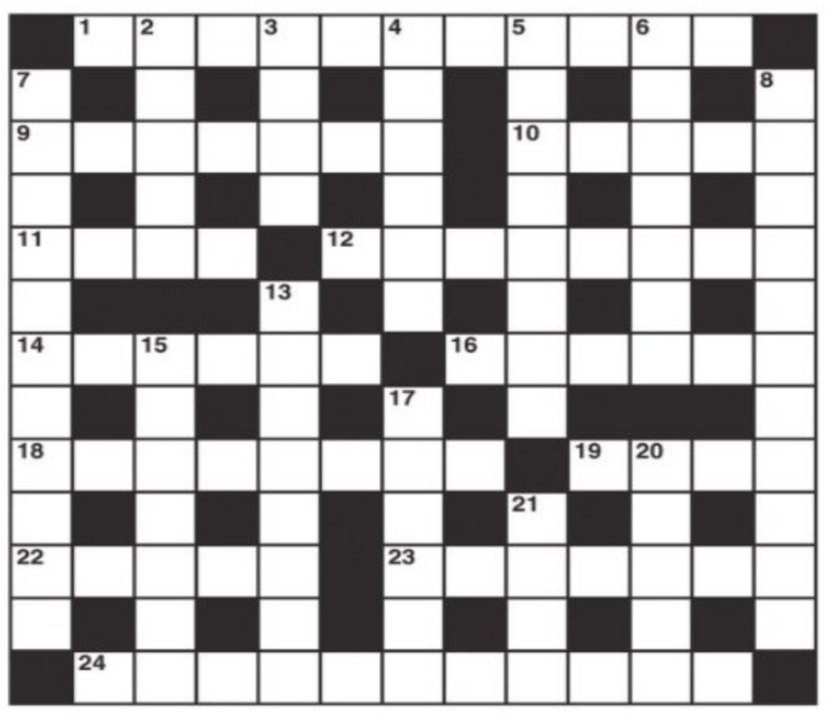
4			6	1	5			
			4	7	9	1		
		5		2		4	7	
	6		5		1	3	4	
		4				9		
	8	9	2		4		5	
	9	7		3		5		
		3	9	4	8			
			7	5	2			9

4	7	1	3	9	5	6	2	8
5	6	2	1	8	4	3	7	9
3	8	9	2	7	6	5	4	1
8	9	5	7	4	3	2	1	6
6	2	4	8	5	1	7	9	3
1	3	7	9	6	2	4	8	5
7	1	3	5	2	8	9	6	4
2	5	6	4	1	9	8	3	7
9	4	8	6	3	7	1	5	2

SUDOKU EASY

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 Bury loose cash at a road junction (11)
9 Could be alien to high spirits (7)
10 A piece of over-sentimental poetry (5)
11 It may hold the garden spray (4)
12 A matchless woman? (8)
14 The club for swinging types (6)
16 Solely depend on me (6)
18 All the money that may be made with apples perhaps (8)
19 Nuts - crack almonds to start with (4)
22 Meaningless mathematical sign? (5)
23 Not the whole of the story (7)
24 Quite satisfied with what spring holds? (4,7)

DOWN
2 Approaches a saner distribution (5)
3 It's wrong to be in an uprising (4)
4 Cover article in duplicate (6)
5 Rises in price saved can make a move (8)
6 Throttle great to adjust (7)
7 Don't let the others inherit - I'll see to it (5,2,2,2)
8 They're used by late entrants (6,5)
13 Drinking song going around the States (8)
15 Upset and angered perhaps (7)
17 The answer to thi lies in the retort (6)
20 A cupful of fruit (5)
21 Widely grown but it's not used (4)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Snooze, 4 Curtains, 9 Botany, 10 Accurate, 12 Rail, 13 Fiona, 14 Puce, 17 Electricians, 20 Parade ground, 23 Okay, 24 Steep, 25 Skin, 28 Sheraton, 29 Gemini, 30 Tortoise, 31 Haggis.

Down: 1 Suborned, 2 Outsider, 3 Zinc, 5 Unconsidered, 6 True, 7 Icarus, 8 Sweden, 11 Civil actions, 15 Stray, 16 Entry, 18 Duckling, 19 Adenoids, 21 Posset, 22 Career, 26 Sago, 27 Vera.

JUMBLE UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

GIWHE

ORAEP

UCHIPC

TIYVLE

How many policies do you have to sell to make the $5,000 advance you got for this?
I've decided to give up insurance to become a full-time author.
10/13
FOR TOM CLANCY, GIVING UP SELLING INSURANCE TO BECOME AN AUTHOR WAS THE ---
Get the free JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

" _____ "

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: TABOO FLUFF CLAMOR INVITE
Answer: They opened their shoe store in a neighborhood that had lots of — FOOT TRAFFIC

Kodagu district is gearing up to host the 67th National Girls' Hockey Tournament from January 3 to 8. The event, which will be inaugurated by CM Siddaramaiah, is the first tournament being hosted in South India by the School Games Federation of India

Traffic cops, BMTC launch training programme to curb fatal accidents

50 drivers trained daily at Traffic Command Centre in Bengaluru

MOHAMMED YACOOB @Bengaluru

THE Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP), in association with the BMTC, has launched a training programme for the latter's drivers.

This is in view of the increasing cases of deaths due to road accidents involving BMTC buses.

From January to November, 34 deaths have been recorded due to accidents involving BMTC buses. In all, 97 injury cases have been recorded.

According to a senior officer from the BTP, since January, 13,917 cases have been booked against BMTC drivers for violation of traffic rules and fines amounting to Rs 1.04 crore imposed on the transport corporation under the Motor Vehicle Act.

Accident-free and safe driving skills and practices are being taught to the drivers during the training programme, he said.

"Our intention is not to book cases against the BMTC drivers and collect fines. Our aim is to reduce the number of fatal road accidents in the city," the officer said.

Along with BMTC, KSRTC drivers are also taking part in the training programme, he added. Chief Traffic Manager (Operations) GT Prabhakar Reddi said, "We are worried about the increasing road accident cases involving our buses. The corporation is also losing crores of rupees as fines for violation of traffic rules. To ensure that our drivers follow traffic rules and regulations strictly and drive safely, we have launched the training programme in association with the BTP."

Sasikala, ACP, Head of Police Traffic Command Centre, and Anil Kumar Purohit, Police Inspector (Traffic), presented a video demonstration on safe driving and steps to avoid violation of traffic rules for drivers during one of the training sessions.

The programme, which began on December 4, will end on December 30. Every day, 50 drivers are trained at the Traffic Command Centre in the city.

PICS: NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Minister Ramalinga Reddy at Kadalekai Parishe on Bull Temple Road on Sunday

Visitors at the fair

A vendor at the fair

Go nuts over the humble groundnut from today @ Kadalekai Parishe

BENGALURU: The annual Kadalekai Parishe (groundnut fair) at Dodda Ganapathi Temple, Bull Temple Road in Basavanagudi, will be officially inaugurated on Monday by Muzrai Minister Ramalinga Reddy. He inspected the preparation for the annual fair on Sunday and called upon people to bring their own bags to make the festival eco-friendly. "More than 600 police personnel have been deployed. We are expecting more than 7 lakh people in attendance. Roads around the Bull Temple have been closed for vehicular movement and alternative routes given," said Ramalinga Reddy. Further, he said he intends for an eco-friendly Kadalekai Parishe this year. With a ban on the usage of plastic, visitors should bring their own bags, he suggested. Nearly 200 groundnut farmers and traders from different parts of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh have already arrived and have put up stalls around the temple. More than fifteen varieties of groundnut will be available at the fair. On Sunday, thousands of people were seen visiting the fair, tasting different types of food sold on the street, shopping and enjoying various games. **ENS**

CRIME PATROL

30-year-old man stabs woman to death

Bengaluru: A 30-year-old man has been arrested on charges of murdering a woman by stabbing her multiple times. While the deceased has been identified as Parveen Taj, 32, a resident of JJ Nagar 4th Cross, the accused Junaid is a resident of Anchepalya. The police said Parveen was Junaid's former wife's cousin and they were allegedly in an illicit relationship and it continued even after Junaid got separated from his wife. Parveen, who is survived by her two children aged 10 and 15, also had differences with her husband, Farooz Khan. Parveen, however, had reportedly stopped talking to Junaid recently. Junaid, who had been working at a shop, had recently quit his job as he had borrowed Rs 1 lakh from his colleagues. Junaid kept contacting Parveen and asked her to meet him, the police said, adding that Parveen had asked Junaid to come to her house at around 4.30 pm on Sunday while her husband was not at home. Junaid who visited Parveen reportedly forced her to continue talking to him but she refused following which he allegedly stabbed her multiple times, the police said. The JJ Nagar police have arrested Junaid. **ENS**

Elderly man rams bike into median, dies

Bengaluru: A 67-year-old man died when his two-wheeler rammed into a road median due to alleged overspeeding. The incident occurred on Doddaballapur-Yelahanka Road at around 10.15 am on Sunday. According to the police, Ramakrishna BJ, a retired employee of a private firm, was on his way to a market and was reportedly overspeeding. Ramakrishna lost control of the vehicle and rammed into a median near CRPF bus stand. He sustained severe head injuries as he was not wearing a helmet and was rushed to Yelahanka government hospital, where he died. Yelahanka traffic police have registered a case. **ENS**

Two killed in accident after partying

Bengaluru: Drink and driving proved fatal for two persons, including a 22-year-old pharmacy student, after their car rammed into a mini bus. The accident happened near Narayanapura-Kebbahalli Road when the duo was heading towards Kanakapura after partying, on Saturday. The deceased have been identified as Kumaraswamy, 26, and his friend Shaila, who was pursuing B. Pharmacy. Both were residents of Kebbahalli. The police said the incident happened around 7.30 pm on Saturday when the duo was going to Kumaraswamy's farmhouse in Kanakapura. Kumaraswamy, who was allegedly driving under the influence of alcohol, was reportedly overspeeding and tried overtaking another car following which he rammed into the rear of a mini bus. Due to the impact, Shaila died on the spot while Kumaraswamy succumbed to injuries in a hospital. The Kodihalli police have registered a case. **ENS**

Debt-ridden farmer ends life in Mandya dist

Mysuru: A farmer died by suicide by consuming poison in Devipura of Malavalli taluk in Mandya district. Venkataraju (55) had grown sugarcane and coconut on four acres by borrowing money to sink a borewell. He had borrowed ₹2 lakh from a bank, ₹2.98 lakh gold loan, ₹1.1 lakh from primary cooperative society and ₹4 lakh from moneylenders. It is said he ended his life as he was unable to repay the loans. His son has lodged a complaint with town police. **ENS**

1.32L people affected by acute diarrhoeal disease this year

NAMRATA SINDWANI @Bengaluru

ACUTE diarrhoeal disease (ADD) has affected 1.32 lakh citizens in Karnataka this year. With a peak observed in the months of May and June, doctors opine that contaminated water making people sick across Karnataka is a matter of concern.

Dr Parvesh Kumar Jain, Head of Department, Department of Gastroenterology, Institute of Gastroenterology Sciences and Organ Transplant, Victoria Hospital, said that a majority of ACD cases are seen during the summer and monsoon months as water often gets contaminated during the rainy season and food goes stale easily in summer. "Consumption of such food and water causes diarrhoeal issues, affecting children in most instances," Dr Jain said.

However, the disease is not fatal and is self-limiting in most cases, Dr Jain said, adding that 90% of the cases are treated at the general practitioner's level and only a few severe require a specialist's intervention.

Cases in K'taka

The latest Weekly Infectious Disease Report released by the State Surveillance Unit from November 27 till December 3 shows that 2,667 cases were reported across Karnataka.

The cases see an upsurge during monsoons, with flooding being common, and drains overflowing with rainwater which seeps into the ground, doctors explained. Under such circumstances, groundwater itself becomes contaminated and causes infections like typhoid or diarrhoea.

Watery loose stool multiple times is the main symptom of diarrhoea. It can be associated with dehydration, bloating, nausea and stomach pain.

In a city like Bengaluru where groundwater levels have dipped, a majority of the population depend on tanker water. Doctors raise concerns over the quality of water as people will be unaware of the source of water and duration since it would be stored in the tanker.

Possible spots

Health officials say that they help keep a surveillance over diarrhoea cases across the state aiding the department of urban development with possible spots having contaminated water.

Dr Basavaraj Dabadi, Deputy Director of Child Health, said they organised an Intensified Diarrhoea Control Fortnight (IDCF) from November 14 to November 28 across Karnataka providing ORS solution packets to families with children below five years to avoid any fatal incidents due to ADD.

Petrol and candle make for deadly combo, 16-yr-old girl dies of burns

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Tumakuru

IN a freak fire mishap, a girl holding up a candle was injured while petrol was being poured into the fuel tank of a two-wheeler. She succumbed to the burns on Sunday.

The deceased **Soundarya** (16) was studying in Class 10 at Mahatma Gandhi PU College in Kunigal taluk, of Kattigehalli village near Yediyuru.

On Friday night, Soundarya's brother was pouring petrol into the fuel tank of a two-wheeler. As there was a power cut, she went close to him with a burning candle to help him see better. The candle caught fire and Soundarya sustained over 30 per cent burns, and was rushed to Victoria Hospital in Bengaluru, where died on Sunday.

"She held both the candle and fuel can, and when power returned, she dropped them in shock, resulting in the accident," police sources said. The fire also engulfed the grocery shop which her father Laxmana runs in the village, and gutted several items. The shop had a stock of fuel and police are investigating whether he was selling fuel illegally to customers, sources said.

Amrithuru police registered a case of unnatural death and have taken up investigation.

BUMPY RIDE

Auto, cab drivers glued to phones, passengers at risk

TISHA ATAL @Bengaluru

INSTANCES of auto and cab drivers being engrossed in their phones- watching movies and videos while with passengers, is on the rise in the city. The issue has raised major safety concerns among drivers, passengers and other vehicles on the road. Traffic police who are legally empowered to crackdown these drivers, said they were unaware of such irresponsibilities of drivers.

TNIE spoke to many commuters who regularly use auto and cab services to travel, and a majority of them complained that they have come across drivers who were glued to their phones, watching movies and videos while driving.

Sharing her ordeal with an auto driver booked through an app, Ria, a designer said, "I noticed my driver watching a movie while driving. I was in the auto for over 45 minutes and he continued watching the movie and laughing loudly, throughout the journey. We were on the verge of getting hit by a car. I asked the driver to stop using his phone while driving, which he sarcastically refused."

Aarya Kabade, a 19-year-old college student, said she noticed her auto driver watching sexual content on his phone while driving, which made her extremely uncomfortable and unsafe. She added she was worried for her life since the driver's complete focus was on the phone.

Ravi, a regular user of cabs and autos raised a similar concern and pointed that it has become common for drivers to be busy on their phones while driving. "While some are continuously busy on a call, others are watching videos while driving."

When *TNIE* raised the issue with the Joint Commissioner of Traffic MN Anucheth, he said he was unaware of any such thing.

Rudramurthy, General Secretary of Auto Rickshaw Drivers Union (ARDU) admitted that some auto drivers were stuck to their phones, and argued that drivers should not be blamed generally for the mistakes of a few. He said they have issued a warning to drivers to stay away from their phones while on the road. MN Sreehari, advisor to government of Karnataka for Traffic, Transportation and Infrastructure said with an increase in such cases, traffic police should start taking action and stop random autos and cabs to check their phones for currently used apps and call logos. He also added that action should be taken against those found guilty of viewing videos or being busy on calls while driving. He asked passengers to be vocal about such instances for their own safety.

> **I noticed my driver watching a movie while driving. I was in the auto for over 45 minutes and he continued watching the movie and laughing loudly, throughout the journey...**
>
> A commuter

MAHARASHTRA METRO RAIL CORPORATION LTD.
(A joint venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Maharashtra)
Pune Metro Rail Project
Maha Metro, Block No. A3, Food Grain Godown, Near Civil Court, Next to Kamgar Putala Vasahat, Shivaji Nagar, Pune 411005 e-mail: tenders.pmrp@mahametro.org
Website: www.punemetrorail.org Telephone: 020-26051074

E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No. P1PD-25/2023 Dt. 11 Dec 2023

Name of Work: Expression of Interest (EOI) for Development and Operation of Bare shell Property Business Spaces at the Property Development Floor at Vanaz and Bhosari Metro Stations of Pune Metro Rail Project for a period of 20 Years on PPP Basis.

Interested bidders may visit Pune Metro Rail website www.punemetrorail.org or download the EOI documents and obtain further details regarding the EOI from our e-tender portal https://mahametrorail.etenders.in from 17:00 Hrs. on 11/12/2023 to 16:00 Hrs. of 28/12/2023 from Maha-Metro's e-tender Portal.

General Manager (TP & Procurement -PD)
Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation Limited
Maha Metro, Greenest Metro

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No: 07 MYS 2023-24
Dated: 28-11-2023
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Sl.	Item of work	Approx. Value
1	450 CFM Diesel driven rotary screw type air compressor with Air Drier. (Tender No. L9236120A)	Rs. 26,62,000/-
2	Spare power pack suitable for HOLMATRO make for HRD's. (Tender No. L9236236A)	Rs. 33,52,000/-

Last date for submission of bids: Upto 10:30 Hrs. on 26-12-2023
For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in
Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date
Senior Divisional Materials Manager
Mysuru
PUB/542/AAD/PRB/SWR/2023-24
South Western Railway - SWR | @SWRRLY | SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

N G Sudhir S/o Gaurayya Shetty #15, First Floor, Seethamma Compound, Nandini Tutorials Road Nelamangala Bangalore Rural District N G Sudhir (45) and Chandan N G (43) sons of Gaurayya Shetty. We hereby inform the public that Khaneshumari No. 404, Pete Street, Nelamangala Town, Bengaluru Rural District, in the name of our grandmother Sundaramma W/O Subbaiah Shetty, (N.S:85 feet, E, W:22.5 feet) property to our grandmother Dated:29-11 -1956 Clean sale deed registered as book number 3513/1956-57 was xeroxed and lost while coming in two wheeler vehicle we searched for est and could not find it Date: 8-12-2023 Complaint filed online on lost report reference number 0840717/2023 , If anyone finds or has the above document in their possession, they should call the above address or my mobile number: 7795038131 and deliver it.

KARNATAKA GOVERNMENT STOCK (SECURITIES)
Finance Department
Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru.

1. Aggregate Amount: **Total Rs.4000 Crore, (Rs.1000 Crore (12 Year Tenure) and Rs.3000 Crore (13 Year Tenure))**
2. Method of Issue : By auction, through PDO, RBI, Mumbai (Fort).
3. Date of auction : **December 12, 2023.**

Government of Karnataka invites subscription to the above securities. Copies of the Notification and Application forms may be obtained from PDO, RBI, Bangalore. Non - competitive bidding facility has been introduced by RBI to encourage participation of retail investors. The Government stock up to 10% of the notified amount of the sale will be allotted to eligible individuals and institutions. Sample Tender Forms and the revised scheme of Non - competitive bidding facility is available on the website **www.rbi.org.in**

Sd/- (Dr. Reju M. T.)
Secretary to Government (Expenditure),
Finance Department
DIPR/CP/RO/2461/2023-24

ಅಲ್ಲಮಾ ಇಕ್ಬಾಲ್ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಬೀದರ (ರಿ)
ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರ ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನ

ಅಲ್ಲಮಾ ಇಕ್ಬಾಲ್ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಅಧೀನದಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿರುವ ಶಾಹೀನ್ ಉರ್ದು ಪ್ರೌಢ ಶಾಲೆ, ಬೀದರ, ಅನುದಾನಿತ ಖಾಲಿ ಇರುವ ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಮಾನ್ಯ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು, ಶಾಲಾ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕಲಬುರಗಿ ಇವರ ಜ್ಞಾಪನ ಆದೇಶ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಸ (4)4 ಖಾಪ್ರೌಶಾ/ಖಾಹುತು/ಅನು168/2018–19 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 03–11–2023 ರಂತೆ ಅನುಮತಿ ನೀಡಿರುವ ಪ್ರಯುಕ್ತ ಅರ್ಹ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಂದ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.	ಹುದ್ದೆ ಹೆಸರು	ಹುದ್ದೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಮೀಸಲಾತಿ	ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಹತೆ
01	ಗಣಿತ (ಸ.ಶಿಕ್ಷಕ)	01	ಮತೀಯ ಅಲ್ಪಸಂಖ್ಯಾತರ ಶಾಲೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ಪ್ರಯುಕ್ತ ರೋಸ್ಟರ್ ಬಿಂದು ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುವುದಿಲ್ಲ	ಬಿ.ಎಸ್ಸಿ. ಬಿ.ಎಡ್. (PCM), (PMCS)

ಷರತ್ತುಗಳು:
1) ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಇಡಿ 291 ಎಲ್ ಎಇಡಿ 2015 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29–09–2016ರ ಪ್ರಮದ ಮತ್ತು ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ನಿಯಮಗಳ ಆದೇಶಗಳ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ತತ್ಸಂಬಂಧ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳಿಗೆ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಹತೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅರ್ಹತೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕಡ್ಡಾಯವಾಗಿ ಹೊಂದಿರತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.
2) ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ಜಾರಿಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ವ್ಯಂದ ಮತ್ತು ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ನಿಯಮಗಳಂತೆ ವಯೋಮಿತಿಯವರಿರಬೇಕು.
3) ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ನಿಯಮಗಳಂತೆ ವೇತನ ಶ್ರೇಣಿ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ.
4) ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಇಡಿ 291 ಎಲ್.ಎಇಡಿ 2015, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29–09–2016ರನ್ವಯ ಅರ್ಹ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ತಮ್ಮ ಅರ್ಜಿಯನ್ನು ಸ್ವಂತ ವಿಳಾಸದ ವಿವರಗಳು ನಮೂದಿಸಿದ ಲಕೋಟೆ, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಹತೆಯ ದೃಢೀಕೃತ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರಗಳು ದ್ವಿ ಪ್ರತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಿದ ದಿನಾಂಕದಿಂದ 21 ದಿನಗಳೊಳಗಾಗಿ ಮುಖ್ಯಗುರುಗಳು, ಶಾಹೀನ್ ಉರ್ದು ಪ್ರೌಢ ಶಾಲೆ, ಬೀದರ 585401, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಜೀವರ ಇವರಿಗೆ ಕಲಯವಂತೆ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಅಂಚೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು. ಮತ್ತು ಅರ್ಜಿಯ ಒಂದು ಪ್ರತಿಯನ್ನು ಮಾನ ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಶಾಲಾ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ, ಇಲಾಖೆ ಬೀದರ ರವರಿಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು.
5) ರೂ. 1,000/– (ರೂಪಾಯಿ ಒಂದು ಸಾವಿರ ಮಾತ್ರ) ಮುಖ್ಯೋಪಾಧ್ಯಾಯರು ಶಾಹೀನ್ ಉರ್ದು ಪ್ರೌಢ ಶಾಲೆ. ಬೀದರ, ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ನಿಂದ ಡಿ.ಡಿ ಪಡೆದು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು.
6) ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆದೇಶಗಳನ್ವಯ ಅಯ್ಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಕಿರಿಯರಿಸುವ ಹಕ್ಕಿ ಶಾಲಾ ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಳಿಯ ಅಧಿಸಕ್ಕೆ ವಳಪಟ್ಟಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ್ದ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂದರ್ಶನಕ್ಕೆ ಹಾಜರಾದ ಮಾತ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಹಕ್ಕು ಜಲಾಯಿಸುವಂತಿಲ್ಲ.
7) ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದವರಿಗೆ ಪತ್ರದ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಂದರ್ಶನದ ದಿನಾಂಕವನ್ನು ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಸಂದರ್ಶನಕ್ಕೆ ಸ್ವಂತ ಖರ್ಚಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಜರಾಗುವುದು ಯಾವುದೇ ರೀತಿಯ ಭತ್ತೆಗಳು ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ
ಅಲ್ಲಮಾ ಇಕ್ಬಾಲ್ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಬೀದರ.

Claiming that the BJP has increased its presence in southern states, Union Minister Krishan Pal Gurjar said the BJP-JDS alliance will unitedly face the 2024 Lok Sabha election to defeat the Congress in Karnataka

CRIME RATE SURGES, CASTS SHADOW ON K'TAKA

Economic, social factors contribute to sharp rise in the number of crimes, with children, women and elders being the prime targets

RISHITA KHANNA
@Bengaluru

IN Karnataka, a state synonymous with economic growth and opportunities, a concerning trend has emerged in the shadows of prosperity. The latest National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data reveals a disquieting surge in the crime rate, casting a shadow over the state's reputation as a hub for jobs and investments. As the state continues to attract businesses and investments, the causes behind the rising crime wave demand closer scrutiny, raising questions about the delicate balance between development and security.

The latest data reveals a visible shift in the State's crime statistics. The comprehensive figures indicate an increase, with Karnataka recording a total of 1,80,742 cases, including 598 rape, 67 human trafficking incidents and 1,482 murders. The data represents a notable escalation from the 1,63,697 cases reported in 2021 and 1,50,080 cases documented in 2020. Delving into these numbers prompts a deeper exploration of the underlying factors contributing to the rise in reported incidents, signalling the need for a closer examination of the state's current challenges in maintaining law and order.

Karnataka, despite being a beacon for employment through dynamic entrepreneurship, finds itself ranked ninth in economic offences, with a total of 7,565 cases recorded, including 7,073 cases registered for fraud, cheating and forgery through the year 2022. The unexpected juxtaposition prompts a critical examination of the challenges which are now inherent in the economic situation of the State, that has long been a pioneer in fostering business and innovation.

With a total of 7,988 cases, there has been a significant and alarming 46 per cent increase in offences targeting children, as evidenced by a substantial total of 3,239 cases registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, along with 97 instances of child labour. The State, with 218 registered cases, also holds the record for the highest reported cases in the country under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act.

Targeting seniors, women

The NCRB statistics also paint a worrying picture for Karnataka, where progress and tradition coalesce, with an 86 per cent surge in crimes against senior citizens. The state documented 1,583 incidents of crimes against the elderly, including 93 murder cases, marking an increase in the total number of cases from 1,442 in 2021 and 853 cases in 2020.

Furthermore, Karnataka stands at third position in case of assault on women, with 4,712 reported incidents and a total of 655 cases of sexual harassment, including 43 instances reported specifically at the workplace. As a reflection of the complex intersection of modernity and societal challenges, the whopping figures give a close look into the root causes, and are also a call to address the safety and security of its most vulnerable populations.

Tech crime on the rise

As per the crime report, not only have children and senior citizens fallen victim to crimes, but the techies fuelling the Information Technology hub have become victims of cybercrimes.

The state recorded a staggering 50 per cent surge with 12,556 cybercrime cases, the second highest documented after Telangana, where a total of 15,297 cases were recorded. The state also witnessed a total of 12,549 incidents reported under the Information Technology Act, including 7,615 cases of cheating by impersonation by using a computer resource, the highest recorded across the country. As the digital landscape expands, these alarming statistics cast a shadow over the State capital's technological ambitions, raising pertinent questions about the security challenges faced by the innovators propelling Karnataka into the future.

Shockingly, despite a shift in the nature of crime, with traditional criminals adapting to the digital age as cyber fraudsters, the State is also combatting a persistent surge in conventional crime, with 12,119 motor vehicle thefts, 5,519 burglaries and 1,757 robberies.

The NCRB statistics also highlight a growing menace as Karnataka faces a total of 6,399 cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, of which 5,170 involve personal drug possession, and 15,257 being recorded under the Liquor and Narcotics Drugs Related Act. To address the surge, tackling root causes like poverty and unemployment is crucial, alongside updating laws and striking a balance between proactive measures and rehabilitation efforts for a more effective solution.

Economic, social, political factors

D Rajasekhar, Director of the Institute of Social and Economic Change, said crime rates escalate due to convergence of economic, social and political factors. Poverty and unemployment, key economic elements, drive people, especially unemployed youth, to resort to criminal activities as a means of earning income, as highlighted in the recent NCRB report.

He explained that additionally, unaddressed social issues like inequality and human rights violations contribute to violent behaviour, with corruption and discrimination in law enforcement further exacerbating the problem. Addressing these root causes through initiatives focused on education and employment opportunities is the only long-term solution that can reduce the crime rate.

ST Ramesh, former Director General and Inspector General of Police (DG & IGP), said the crime report provides a limited view as not all incidents are reported.

The surge in cybercrime cases in Karnataka is influenced by the state's tech-centric culture, where knowledge fosters both innovation and misuse. While technology aims for a positive change, some misuse is due to in-depth knowledge of software and technology. The city's awareness and reporting mechanism with Cyber, Economics and Narcotics (CEN) police stations in place, amplifies reporting rates and within a densely populated setting, an upswing in crime rates becomes inevitable.

K'TAKA TOPS
218
Cases under Prohibition of Child Marriage Act
12,549
Total offences under IT Act
CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN
Assault 4,712
Sexual harassment 655
Rape 598
Stalking 180
17,813
TOTAL CASES
OTHER CRIMES
12,119
1,757
5,519
MOTOR THEFT
ROBBERY
URGLARY
Under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act
6,399 Total cases
5,170 Possession of drugs for personal use
1,229 Possession of drugs for trafficking
15,257 Cases under Liquor & Narcotic Drugs related Acts
The surge in cybercrime cases in Karnataka is influenced by the state's tech-centric culture, where knowledge fosters both innovation and misuse. While technology aims for a positive change, some misuse is due to in-depth knowledge of software and technology

Shivanna declines DKS' political offer, says will remain an actor

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

POPULAR actor Shivarajkumar on Sunday declined the offer made by Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) president DK Shivakumar to contest the upcoming Lok Sabha elections from a constituency of his choice in the state.

Responding to Shivakumar, the actor, declining the offer, said that he has to keep up the legacy of his father Dr Rajkumar, who never entered politics.

Shivarajkumar was speaking at the state Arya Ediga community rally in Bengaluru's Palace Grounds on Sunday.

Clarifying that politics is not his cup of tea, the actor said, "Happy to see you all getting together here and it's my grace to be part of this event. DK Shivakumar has asked me to be prepared (to contest the polls)... but I said my fathers' gift to me is to be in the celluloid world and pursue acting as a career for which I am restricted to. There are other people there to do politics who fit the bill. Despite marrying his daughter, former CM S Bangarappa never asked me to enter politics... neither has Madhu Bangarappa," he stated, adding that he will encourage his wife Geetha to pursue a career in politics as she is interested in it.

Earlier, Shivakumar had said that the time is ideal for Shivarajkumar to contest electoral politics and become a Member of Parliament.

"I told Shivrajkumar to get ready for LS polls. He is yet to agree. He wants to remain in the acting world. Not everyone is lucky to go to Lok Sabha. That opportunity and 'yoga' has come to his doorstep. Do not miss such an opportunity..." Shivakumar said.

CM, DyCM try to woo Edigas

In an apparent attempt to woo the Ediga community ahead of the LS polls, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and DyCM DK Shivakumar promised to fulfil the community's demands, including setting up of social reformer Narayanaguru study chair and Rs 500 crore to the community's development corporation.

The duo, however, clarified that the decision will be taken after the completion of the ongoing winter session of the legislature.

"Our government has provided a grant of Rs 5 crore to set up the study chair and also to construct a theme park on Koti Channayya," Siddaramaiah said.

Shivakumar further expressed his gratitude to the community as it backed the Congress party in this year's Assembly elections in the state and expected the same in the 2024 LS polls as well.

"We will help you by giving you more seats in the upcoming LS elections. But you have to work for Congress to win the maximum number of seats in the entire state. Regardless of whoever the Congress candidate is, you should ensure their victory," he appealed to the community.

Actor Shivarajkumar at the Karnataka Ediga Samavesha at Palace Grounds in Bengaluru on Sunday JNAGARAJA GADEKAL

BK HARIPRASAD SKIPS MEET, SAYS IT IS POLITICALLY MOTIVATED

Hubballi: Senior Congress MLC BK Hariprasad said he skipped the Ediga community convention in Bengaluru as it was "politically motivated". Speaking to reporters in Hubballi on Sunday, Hariprasad said he will grow more and those who want to suppress him can try their best. Expressing his anguish against CM Siddaramaiah, the MLC said such leaders had maintained distance with the community members. But for political gains, such programmes are being organised... to attract the attention of the community," he said. "Only a few community religious heads were invited, which is testimony that the event is politically motivated. People are witnessing the rule of CM Siddaramaiah and let them take a call," Hariprasad added.

Cong min with 50-60 MLAs will join BJP: HDK

BR UDAYA KUMAR @Hassan

CONTINUING his attack on the Karnataka government, state JDS chief HD Kumaraswamy on Sunday claimed that a "powerful minister" in the Siddaramaiah cabinet is in talks with BJP high command to join them with 50-60 Congress MLAs to escape from various cases against him pending before different investigation agencies.

Kumaraswamy also said that the fate of the Congress government in the state would be decided only after the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. "Somebody gave me this information that the ministers along with 50-60 MLAs will join the BJP," the former CM said, without naming the minister.

He was replying to reporters when asked about the predictions made by Kadasiddeshwara Mutt seer in Nonavinakere that DK Shivakumar will become the CM in the future. Kumaraswamy said all is not well in the Congress in Karnataka. He said not just senior leader BK Hariprasad, but several other leaders too have "rebelled" against CM Siddaramaiah. "Political developments similar to Maharashtra may happen in Karnataka too," he predicted.

He also slammed Siddaramaiah for announcing that Rs 10,000 crore will be given to the welfare of Minorities. Kumaraswamy alleged that Siddaramaiah was trying to divide the society on caste and religious lines which will pave the way for future communal clashes in the state.

The JDS leader said that the party will take out a padayatra from Arsikere to Tumakuru to draw the attention of the State and Union governments on the problems faced by coconut growers.

'Toy market is not doing well globally after pandemic'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

MEANWHILE, sources said neither government officials nor the private company is showing any interest in the project. FKCCI president Ramesh Chandra Lahoti told TNIE that a wrong location has been identified for the project. "Koppal is not ideal for manufacturing toys," he said.

Lahoti said the company owns the land now. It can approach the government for permission to start other projects there. Otherwise, the land will remain unused.

According to officials from Aequs Private Limited, the toy market is not doing well globally after the pandemic. Operations at the cluster in the first year were impacted by the pandemic. "It is expected to improve in the coming days," they said.

Operations at the cluster in the first year were impacted by the pandemic. It is expected to improve in the coming days

Aequs Private Limited

STATE SCHOOLS TO GET ACCESS TO TELESCOPES & MICROSCOPES

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

TO promote 'Science for All', the Karnataka government on Sunday announced that all government high schools will have access to microscopes and telescopes to encourage scientific temper among children at an early age. Minister for Minor Irrigation, Science, and Technology NS Boseraju has instructed officials from his department to design a new policy 'Provide Access to Telescopes' (PAT).

The success of Chandrayaan-3 and India's moon landing on the South Pole has had a ripple effect on youngsters who have been deeply inspired to learn more about space and astronomy.

"The PAT policy aims to provide access to telescopes in rural and Kannada medium government high schools to foster scientific temper and astronomical curiosity among Classes 8 to 10 students. In addition to raising space awareness, it will give students the chance to discover the vast sky and gain knowledge about astronomical objects. We hope that this policy will spark an interest in astronomy and space sciences at an early age among students," the minister added.

Currently, Karnataka has two regional science centres, two planetariums, and eight regional science centres. There are also 11 mobile observatories in operation. The Department of Science and Technology will take up the PAT project with the goal of increasing interest in scientific subjects among state students. Through the new policy, teachers will also receive training on how to use them to instruct students. The minister directed the officials concerned to develop the necessary programmes and policies.

EXPRESS READ

Prof Nanjundaswamy behind my political entry: CM

Bengaluru: CM Siddaramaiah recalled that his entry into politics was because of his law college professor Prof Nanjundaswamy. Siddaramaiah was speaking after releasing Director TN Sitharam's autobiography 'Nenapina Putagalu' on Sunday. "While I was a law student, Prof. Nanjundaswamy was a professor. He used to discuss various topics with students interested in politics. He helped me to become a member of Samajwadi Yuva Janasabha," the CM recalled.

Congress Legislature Party meeting on Wednesday

Bengaluru: The Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting will be held at a farm retreat in Belagavi at 7 pm on Wednesday. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will preside over the meeting in which all the party legislators, including DyCM DK Shivakumar, and Floor Leader in the Legislative Council NS Boseraju, will take part. The meeting is likely to discuss the strategy to tackle the issues raised by the Opposition BJP in the ongoing winter session of the legislature in Suvarna Vidhanan Soudha in Belagavi.

In a freak fire mishap, a girl holding up a candle was injured while petrol was being poured into the fuel tank of a two-wheeler. She succumbed to the burns on Sunday. The deceased Soundarya (16) was studying in Class 10 in Kunigal taluk, of Kattigehalli village near Yediyuru

130-m floating bridge in Murudeshwara can hold 110 people

SUBHASH CHANDRA N S
@Murudeshwara (Uttara Kannada)

TO provide a better view of Murudeshwara temple and the sea, an ocean adventure firm which organises scuba diving and other events at Murdeshwara has built a floating bridge. Many people stay away from water due to fear of getting drowned. There have also been several instances when the tourists have been washed away.

Visitors can now venture into the sea by just walking on water. Surprised? The longest floating bridge has come up at Murudeshwar. The bridge, measuring 130 metres in length, floats in the Arabian Sea and is constructed in such a manner that it gives a glimpse of the massive Shiva statue and the Murudeshwar temple from the middle of the sea. "This is the third such floating bridge in the country. The other two are in Malpe and Kerala," Ganesh Harikantra, founder and head of Ocean Adventure told TNIE.

The floating bridge at Murudeshwara

He said this bridge was planned three years ago but had to delay it due to Covid-19 pandemic. "We had thought of it in 2019 but gave up the idea after the outbreak of Covid 19. This is for those who are scared to venture into the sea in boats," said Ganesh.

"The bridge has a viewpoint which can provide clearer view of the sea and the temple. People who want to see the sunset can do so using this. This bridge can hold 110 people at a time, 100 tourists and 10 life guards who accompany the tourists. This being an all-weather bridge, it will remain undetached even during the rough sea days," explained Ganesh.

Darshan time extended by 1 hr at Sabarimala temple

Number of pilgrims visiting the hill shrine crosses one lakh

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Pathanamthitta

CONSIDERING the heavy rush and hardship of pilgrims at Sabarimala, the Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) on Sunday extended the darshan time by an hour, to 18 hours daily. On Sunday, the sanctum sanctorum of the temple opened at 3pm for evening darshan, instead of the usual 4pm. From now, the evening darshan time will be from 3pm to 11pm, while the morning timing – 3am to 1pm – will remain unchanged.

TDB president P S Prasanth told TNIE that as per the directive of the Kerala High Court, they met the Sabarimala thantri and informed him about the difficulty of pilgrims.

"We gave him a letter for an extension of darshan time. He agreed to it. We appreciate their efforts. With the extension of timings, the thantri, chief priests and their assistants need to do a lot of hard work. They do not get adequate time to even sleep or rest. Though the official closing time is 11pm, the temple remains open till 11.15pm to ensure darshan to maximum pilgrims. At noon, the temple closes at 1.15pm, instead of 1pm. We are making all efforts to ensure a smooth and safe darshan for pilgrims," said Prasanth.

The virtual queue booking till Sunday morning reaches 73,000 from Saturday's 67,400 | EXPRESS

According to police sources, though virtual queue booking has been limited to 80,000 per day from 90,000, the total number of pilgrims visiting the hill shrine crossed 1 lakh due to spot bookings. "There has been a huge rush for spot booking at different points, especially at Nilakkal. On Sunday, the virtual queue booking till morning was nearly 73,000. On Saturday, around 67,400 people received darshan," the source said.

The TDB president said a special queue has been arranged for the physically challenged, elderly, and children, since the beginning of the pilgrimage season.

Detailing the hardship of pilgrims, Raman Kartha, an advocate from Kochi, on Friday said, "Though we reached Erumeli at 11am, we could not offer prayers there, due to heavy rush and traffic block. We somehow managed to reach Pampa by 4pm. We reached Sannidhanam at 6am on Saturday after facing many difficulties."

NEW BEGINNING

Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia lays the foundation stone for a terminal at Rajamahendravaram airport on Sunday | EXPRESS

MICHAUNG IMPACT

Declare cyclone national disaster: Naidu to PM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayawada

INFORMING that crops worth Rs 10,000 crore in nearly 22 lakh acres have been damaged due to Cyclone Michaung, TDP supremo N Chandrababu Naidu has urged the Centre to declare the cyclone a national disaster to give the necessary impetus to immediate relief measures and to establish a resilient long-term infrastructure. The declaration of the cyclone a national disaster will instill confidence among the victims, ushering in a united front against the challenges posed by the natural calamity, he felt.

> The preliminary assessment has indicated extensive damage, with the crop loss recorded in 22 lakh acres,
>
> N Chandrababu Naidu, TDP supremo (in his letter to PM)

In a letter addressed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the former Chief Minister said the cyclone, marked by winds reaching speed of up to 100 km, had caused widespread devastation, claiming six lives, and bringing life to a standstill across 15 districts.

"The preliminary assessment has indicated extensive damage, with the crop loss recorded in 22 lakh acres, amounting to a staggering Rs 10,000 crore. Additionally, significant loss of cattle, livestock and trees has been reported. The cyclone impact on infrastructure is alarming with approximately 770 km of roads damaged and critical facilities such as drinking water, irrigation, electricity and communication suffering a heavy impairment," he mentioned, and added that two major sectors – agriculture and fishing -- have been adversely impacted by the cyclone.

"In light of these circumstances and recognising that the impact of the cyclone has not been confined to Andhra Pradesh alone, but has also affected Tamil Nadu, I request the Prime Minister to declare Cyclone Michaung a national disaster," said Naidu.

3,250 cusecs of Cauvery flows as runoff into TN

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

EVEN as Tamil Nadu has been receiving copious rain over the past few days, with cyclone Michaung hitting the coast, coupled with the North East monsoon, outflow from the Cauvery from Karnataka is at 3,250-3,300 cusecs, with Bengaluru and southern Karnataka being blessed with good showers.

While there has been a political hue and cry about releasing Cauvery water, sources said 3,250-3,300 cusecs is quietly flowing into Tamil Nadu regularly due to the good rain. Sources said this is not the flow from Kabini or KRS dams, but the excess runoff in the zone between KRS and Kabini to Biligundlu. Sources in the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said the rainfall in Bengaluru is around 200 mm from October 1 till date, while the Cauvery basin has received a fair amount of rainfall during this period, thanks to the north-east monsoon and different weather systems.

In September-end, the Cauvery Water Management Authority told Karnataka to release Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu to make up a shortfall of 0.7 tmcft that had piled up during the fortnight ending September 27. Karnataka had said it would be difficult to release water as there was a deficit in water yield because of the poor southwest monsoon. In an unsavoury attack, BJP had tweeted that whenever Siddaramaiah takes over as chief minister, the state suffers from drought.

HM Revanna, a former minister from Congress, said, "When rain failed in Karnataka, BJP rubbed salt on Karnataka's wounds by seeking to blame Siddaramaiah. Since then, nature has taken over and there has been copious rainfall in Tamil Nadu."

TTD-run SVAC receives autonomous status for 10 yrs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Tirupati

THE University Grants Commission (UGC) has granted a 10-year autonomous status upon Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams-run Sri Venkateswara Arts College (SVAC). This prestigious institution, with a history of seven and a half decade, now has the authority to make independent decisions for its development. This includes choices related to teaching methods, examination process, syllabus and more.

The college if empowered to decide on various aspects, such as the social approach in teaching, implementation of advanced courses, using memory enhancement methods, and campus selections.

Established in 1945, by the then TTD board chairman Diwan Raghunath Reddy, the college started with just 80 students, initially catering to the education needs of the economically backward class, in Rayalaseema district. Over the years, it has grown to accommodate 2,735 students and received NAAC recognition on Sept 13, 2022.

Noteworthy achievements include rankings in quality management systems (ISO 9001:2015), environmental management systems, and obtaining ISO certifications. The college hosts various wings, units, and centres, such as the Army wing, Air wing, R&V Regiment, NSS units, special placement cell, competitive exams cell, academic council, science club, Ambedkar Regional Study Centre, and Indira Gandhi National Open University Study Centre.

TTD Trust Board Chairman Bhumana Karunakara Reddy and Executive Officer (EO) AV Dharma Reddy commended JEO (Health and Education) Sada Bhargavi, DEO Bhaskar Reddy, Principal Narayanamma, faculty, and students for their remarkable achievements. The recent inauguration of the college's hostel block was graced by Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy. The College is owned and managed by the TTD Trust Board.

EXPRESS READ

Student of SVVU among 50 priests at Ayodhya

Tirupati: Bringing recognition to the prestigious TTD-run Sri Venkateswara Vedic University (SVVU) in Tirupati, Mohit Pandey, a student of Master of Arts (Acharya) in the Sama Veda, has been chosen as one of the 50 priests for the prestigious Ayodhya Ram Temple. "Many students from the university serve as priests and acharyas in various temples. Pandey is soft-spoken. His nature, focus and dedication to his studies has given him a chance to serve Lord Ram. We are extremely happy with Pandey's achievement,' said Prof Rani Sadasiva Murthy, VC of SVVU told TNIE.

Orders to kill or cage man-eating tiger

Kalpetta: A day after the half-eaten body of a man killed in a tiger attack was found near the forests of Vakeri, Wayanad, the chief wildlife warden D Jayaprasad, issued an order to kill the man-eater. "Maximum effort should be made to either cage or tranquilize the animal as per the National Tiger Conservation Authority norms. If the animal cannot be captured and it is established as a man eater, then it shall be killed under the section 11 (1) (a) of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 with strict adherence to the NTCA norms," the order stated.

Rahul may campaign for SCCL elections in T'gana

Hyderabad: After the recent Assembly elections win, former AICC president Rahul Gandhi is expected to campaign in the upcoming Singareni Coal Belt recognised trade union elections, which are scheduled for Dec 27. The Wayanad MP is expected to address the public either in Peddapalli or Ramagundam, in support of the party-affiliated trade union — the Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC). Congress and INTUC leaders are making arrangements for Rahul's campaign in Karimnagar and Adilabad districts.

GUARANTEES AND GROWTH: K'TAKA, T'GANA WILL BE UNDER SCANNER

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI
@ Bengaluru

WITH the Congress ruling Karnataka and Telangana in South India, and the burden of implementing the guarantee schemes, the growth rate of both states is likely to be under close watch. Whether these guarantees will impact growth will also be under the scanner.

Karnataka, with a population of 6.1 crore, is ranked fourth in the country with respect to GSDP at Rs 22.41 lakh crore, and GSDP growth rate at 14.2 percent for the financial year 2022-23. Telangana, with a 3.5 crore population, is ranked ninth at Rs 12.93 lakh crore and has a growth rate of 12.5 percent. But the latter has a per capita income of Rs 3.2 lakh, a little higher than Karnataka's, which stands at Rs 3.01 lakh. Inflow of Foreign Direct Investment into Karnataka between October 2019 and October 2023 is USD 47.30 billion, as compared to Telangana's USD 5.92 billion, as per investindia.gov.in.

If these states can complement each other with regard to development, by utilising and sharing their resources, it may further help boost their economies by improving their GSDP and also per capita income of their citizens, according to experts. To what extent the guarantees help increase per capita income and energise the GSDP, and the impact it will have with, on generation of employment, is to be seen.

With regard to the IT sector, both Bengaluru and Hyderabad have an edge as they have proven to be investor-friendly and now the competition may turn out to be complementary. In Karnataka, AICC president Malliikarjun Kharge's son Priyank Kharge holds the IT/BT portfolio and since he hails from the Hyderabad-Karnataka region, he may strike a balance with his counterpart in Telangana, observed a Congress leader.

Nandini serial hero Rahul Ravi absconding

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

POPULAR Kannada serial 'Nandini' hero Rahul Ravi is absconding, and Chennai police are on the lookout for him after his wife Lakshmi filed a complaint of harassment. An FIR lodged with Chennai police says Lakshmi caught him with another woman in his apartment.

Nandini is a multi-lingual serial aired on Udaya TV and Sun TV networks. His last Tamil project was 'Kannanakanne' on Sun TV.

The FIR says the couple got married in December 2020, and problems soon began. On the midnight of April 26, 2023, based on a tipoff, Lakshmi went to his apartment with the police, and apartment association members, and found a girl in his bedroom. He assaulted Lakshmi. As per a Madras High Court order, an arrest warrant was issued against him after bail granted to him was cancelled on November 3. The court also said that Rahul accusing his wife of having mental disorders cannot be accepted by any court, and such conduct is considered condemnable.

8,500 km Jan Adhikar Yatra to cover 80 dists, end on March 3

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

AHEAD of Lok Sabha elections, the 8,500-km Bhagat Singh Jan Adhikar Yatra highlighting issues such as unemployment, inflation, corruption, communalism and exploitation of poor people began here on Sunday.

The yatra by Revolutionary Workers' Party of India (RWPI), Disha Students' Organisation, Naujawan Bharat Sabha, Bigul Mazdoor Dasta and other organisations will pass through the states of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, Chandigarh, covering over 80 districts, and end in New Delhi on March 3, 2024.

Addressing a gathering, RWPI member Shivani said the last 10 years of Modi rule unleashed the monster of inflation over the masses and broke their backs.

LPG prices increased from Rs 450 in 2014 to Rs 1,000. Petrol, which was sold for Rs 55, now costs Rs 100. Prices of essential commodities have skyrocketed.

The reason for price rise is the taxes being imposed on the people by the government.

Referring to the Centre for Monitoring India Economy (CMIE) report, the speakers stated that unemployment in October hit a record 10.1 percent, highest in the last 29 months. Many unemployed youth have gone into depression and some died by suicide, they said.

A member of Naujawan Bharat Sabha said that it is crucial to make people aware of the "divide and rule" propaganda being spread by the union government instead of tackling the people's problems.

K'taka govt mulls banning elephants above 60 yrs in all operations

A candlelight protest was held demanding a probe into the death of Dasara elephant Arjuna in Mysuru on Sunday | UDAYASHANKAR S

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Hassan

Minister of Forests, Ecology and Environment Eshwar B Khandre said the state government has formed the five-member expert team to probe the death of famed Dasara elephant Arjuna during an operation to capture rogue elephants near Yesaluru forest range.

Speaking to the media after visiting Dabballi Katte forest to pay homage to Arjuna on Sunday, Khandre said the expert team comprising retired PCCF Ajay Mishra, former member of wildlife board Dr Sukumar, advisor for Karnataka Zoo Authority, Ballistic Expert FSL Bengaluru Dr Madan Kompal and additional principal and chief conservator for forest Shaswathi Mishra will probe the death of Arjuna. He has asked the team to submit a detailed report within two weeks.

The minister said the government is serious about man-animal conflict. He promised to combat the elephant menace in a phased manner.

"Fixing rail barricade is one of the best methods to prevent elephants from entering into human habitats, and fixing barricades for 340 km will be taken up in phases," he said.

Brushing aside reports of bullet injuries to Arjuna during the operation, the minister said the department has decided to give special training to sharp shooters, veterinarians and staff of the elephant task force, to ensure effective and safe operations.

Expressing concern over the death of Arjuna, the minister said that the government will also come up with a decision banning the elephants above 60 years of age for any future operations.

The government has already decided to have two memorials for the jumbo who carried the golden howdah for eight years in Yesaluru forest range and Balle forest in Nagarahole.

When asked about the prediction of former chief minister H D Kumaraswamy about the collapse of state government post Lok Sabha elections, Khandre said the JDS state president is dejected after receiving a drubbing in the assembly elections. "It is natural for him to make baseless remarks against the government. Instead, he must alert the government over developments and the problems of farmers if any," he said.

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DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13 (2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **HDFC Bank Limited** (erstwhile HDFC Limited having amalgamated with HDFC Bank Limited by virtue of a Scheme of Amalgamation approved by Hon'ble NCLT-Mumbai vide order dated 17th March 2023) **(HDFC)** under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued Demand Notices under Section 13 (2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) listed hereunder, to pay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice/s, within 60 days from the date of the respective Notice/s, as per details given below. The undersigned have, caused these Notices to be pasted on the premises of the last known respective addresses of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s). Copies of the said Notices are available with the undersigned, and the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s), may, if they so desire, collect the respective copy from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.

In connection with the above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) to pay to **HDFC,** within 60 days from the date of publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below in their respective names, together with further interest @ 18% p.a. as detailed in the said Demand Notices from the respective dates mentioned below in column (c) till the date of payment and / or realization, read with the loan agreement and other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following Secured Asset(s) have been mortgaged to **HDFC** by the said Borrower (s) respectively.

Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset/s.

Sl. No	Name of Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative (s)	Total Outstanding Dues	Date of Demand Notice	Description of Secured Asset in respect of which Security Interest has been created
(a)	(b)	c	(d)	(f)
1	**Ms. Chethana Vinay (Borrower)** No. 132, BDA Layout, 3rd Cross, 2nd Stage, 12th Block, Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru 560072. **Also at:** PO Box 3175, U4 31, Jones Road, Dandenong - City, Australia. **Also at:** Goodstart Early Learning, **Designation:** Educator, **Department:** Education, **Employee No:** 23715809, No.6, Spring Well Road, Aspendall Gardens, Melbourne, Australia. **Also at:** Site No. 140, Lexus Stone View, Bettenahalli Village, Kudana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk & Tharahunase Village Jala Hobli, Bengaluru 562110	**Loan A/c No: 631222618 Rs.19,99,742/- (Rupees Nineteen Lakhs Ninety Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Two Only) as on 31.10.2023**	**27.11.2023** **N.P.A. Date: (e) 04.07.2023**	All that piece and parcel of residential site bearing **No.140** assigned by BIAAPA measuring East to West 13.72 meters and North to South 10.67 meters, totally measuring an extent of **146.39 Sq. Metres** released for sale by BIAAPA vide their letter bearing No.BIAAPA/TP2/LAO/370/2013-14/4504, dated 18/02/2016 in the residential layout known as **'Stone View'** being formed on various survey No's 159, 160, 161/1, 161/2, 161/3, 243/1, 243/2, 243/3, 243/4, 243/5 of Bettenahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk and Tharahunase Village, Jala Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore District, assigned the Khatha Number 295/298/140 and Property ID No.150300201200822273 by the Jalige Village Panchayath, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on the: **East by** : Road, **West by:** Site No.131, **North by:** Sy No.158, **South by:** Site No.139.
2	**Mr. Tendulkar Chetan Narayan (Borrower)** B Wing 406, Chandresh Kaveri Society, Kalyan Shil Road, Lodha Office, Shirdhon, Nilje Kalyan Thane, Maharashtra 421204. **Also at:** VRD Network & Communication Private Limited, **Designation:** Compliance/Governance, **Department:** IT, **Employee No:** GRD232IT No 127 Vaishali Nagar, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh 462003. **Also at:** BT-24 B, 3rd Floor, Block-B, Ittina Neela (Block- B) Apartment, Andhapura Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Tq, Bangalore 562106	**Loan A/c No: 621032738 Rs.19,69,452/- (Rupees Nineteen Lakhs Sixty Nine Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Two Only) as on 31.10.2023**	**27.11.2023** **N.P.A. Date: (e) 04.07.2023**	**Schedule –A:** All that piece and parcel of properties bearing **(1) Sy.No.5/3**, measuring 2 Acres 27 Guntas of Land **(2) Sy.No.46,** measuring 2 Acres of Land **(3) Sy.No.47,** measuring 2 Acres of Land and **(4) Sy.No.48,** measuring 2 acres of Land, totally measuring **8 acres 27 Guntas of Land,** excluding Kharab, situated at Andhapura Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, converted for non agricultural residential purpose through the conversion order bearing No.BDS/ALN/SR (A) 66/2001-02 dated 26.02.2003 and bounded on : **East by** : Property Bearing Sy.Nos.46 And 5/4, **West by** : Property Bearing Sy.Nos.49 And 5/1, **North by** : Property Bearing Sy.Nos.5/2, 5/4 And 5/5, **South by** : Property bearing Sy.No.45. **Schedule –B:** All that Residential Apartment bearing **No.BT 24, Property No. I79/BT/24,** Property ID No.150200100600700114 [as per RDPR] in **Third Floor** in **Block 'B' of "ITTINA NEELA"** built in schedule 'A' property and measuring **1000 Sq.feet [92.90 Sq.mtrs] of super built up area** inclusive of proportionate share in common areas, passages, lobbies, staircase and other areas together with **300 Sq.feet** undivided share, right, title, interest and ownership in the land comprised in schedule 'A' property and a **covered car parking space** and in the said apartment the doors are made of flush doors and steel windows and mosaic flooring.
3	**Mr. Chikoti Ramana (Borrower)** # 41, 4th Main, 12th Cross, Wilson Garden, Chinnayana Palya, Bengaluru 560027. **Also at:** # 112/17 9th Cross, Wilson Garden, Hombegowda Nagar, Bengaluru 560027. **Also at:** Auto Striping India Private Limited, **Designation:** Sr Executive, **Department:** Admin, **Employee No:** 5146, 25/17/1 21 Hosur Main Road, Wilson Garden, Bengaluru 560027. **Also at:** Flat-C201, 2nd Floor, Pride Sunrise Apartment, Plot 6, 6A-6S, Bukkasagara Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru 562106.	**Loan A/c No: (1) 644619201 Rs.26,61,650/-** **(2) 645441436 Rs. 1,54,985/-** **Total Amount : Rs.28,16,635/- (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakh Sixteen Thousand Six Hundred and Thirty Five Only) as on 31.10.2023**	**27.11.2023** **N.P.A. Date: (e) 05.04.2023**	**Schedule A:** All that piece and parcel of the amalgamated Residential Site measuring **5492.64 Sq. Mtrs., or 59,122.77 Sq. ft., bearing No.6, 6A to 6S,** bearing Khata No. 375/375/6.6A to 6S bearing E-Khata No. 150200100400905388 (carved out of converted land measuring an extent of 4 Acres comprised in Survey No.165/1 of Bukkasagara Village, Sattar Sabi Dinne, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, Converted Vide Official Memorandum bearing No.ALN.SR(A)87/95-96 Dated: 16/02/1996 issued by the Assistant Commissioner, Bangalore South Sub Division, Bangalore) Building Plan Sanction bearing No. APA/CC/191/2017-18 dated 10.08.2018 issued by Anekal Planning Authority and bounded on the: **East by** : Road, **West by** : Road, **North by** : Park, **South by** : Park. **Schedule B:** Residential Apartment bearing **No. C-201 on the Second Floor** in the residential complex known as **"PRIDE SUNRISE"** being constructed on the Schedule A Property measuring about **56.65 Sq.Mts** (609.78 sq.ft) of carpet Area (subject to variation of +/- 2%) bearing Kallubalu Grama Panchayathi No. 375/375/C-201, consisting of **Two Bed Rooms** with RCC roofing and other specifications as contained in the Annexure to this deed or near equivalents thereto agreed to be sold to the Purchaser/S/Allottee/S along with the exclusive right to use and enjoy the internal balconies area of 2.54 Sq.Mts (27.34 sq.ft) lying appurtenant to the said Residential Apartment and the exclusive right to use and enjoy **One Covered Car Parking Space** in the Stilt Floor of the Residential Building exclusively allotted for the sole use and enjoyment of the Purchaser/Allottee.
4	**Mr Anandaraaj (Borrower)** No.200, 4th Cross, KEB Main Road, Gandhipuram, Bangalore 560066. **Also at:** Mr. Anandaraaj S/o Parthiban, # 6/27, Vasudevan Street, Purasawakkam, Vepery, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600007. **Also at:** CGI Information Systems and Management Consultants Private Limited, **Designation:** Lead Analyst. **Department:** Finance, E-City Tower-2, No.95/1 &95/2, Electronic City Phase I (West), Bangalore-Electronic City, Bengaluru 560100. **Also at:** Flat-B-017, Ground Floor, Vakil Magnolia Apartment, Madiwal Village, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru 562106.	**Loan A/c No: (1) 632814533 Rs.39,08,451/- (2) 633320147 Rs. 1,13,612/- Total Amount : Rs.40,22,063/- (Rupees Forty Lakh Twenty Two Thousand Sixty Three Only) as on 31.10.2023**	**27.11.2023** **N.P.A. Date: (e) 03.11.2022**	**Schedule A:** All that piece and parcel of residential converted land bearing **Sy. Nos. 115/1 & 115/2, measuring 1 Acre 20 Guntas,** situated at Madiwala Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District and an apartment Building constructed thereon comprising of Stilt, Ground and Three Upper Floors consisting of 100 flats together with all rights appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on the: **East by** : Sy No. 94, **West by** Sy No. 114 and 117, **North by** : Sy No. 95 belongs to Revanna, **South by** : Sy No. 116 belongs to Vakil Layout and Sy. No. 126. **Schedule B:** All that piece and parcel of **Flat bearing No. 017 at Block B in Ground Floor,** e Khatha No. 150200101800621797, measuring **799.08 Sq.ft.**, carpet area consisting of **2 Bed Rooms** with RCC roofing. Vitrified Flooring in Living Room, Wooden door for Main Door and aluminum windows, including proportionate share in common area such as passage, lobbies, staircase, contained in the residential apartment complex known as **"VAKIL MAGNOLIA APARTMENT"** with **1 car parking space** exclusively earmarked for the sole use and enjoyment of the Purchase r/s. **East by** : Open Space, **West by :** Open Space & Portion of Corridor, **North by :** Flat No - C 018, **South by :** Open Space.
5	**Mr. Prakas Gautam (Borrower)** House 81/12 1st Floor, Royal Placid Layout Phase 1, HSR Layout 2, Off Halasur Road, Bengaluru 560103. **Also at:** Town Village Kashipur, Anchal Samastipur, Dist Samastipur, Samastipur, Bihar 848101. **Also at:** Capgemini Technology Services India Limited, **Designation:** Senior Manager, **Department:** IT, **Employee No:** 99482 FS, 5&6th Floor, RMZ Ecoworld, Marthalli Outer Ring Road, Belandur, Bengaluru 560103. **Also at:** Flat-G-14-A-Block, Ground Floor, Sai Ashirwaadh Paradise Block- A, S No 184, Kudulu Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Tq, Bengaluru 562106.	**Loan A/c No: 642493557 Rs.27,48,542/- (Rupees Twenty Seven Lakh Forty Eight Thousand Five Hundred and Forty Two Only) as on 31.10.2023**	**27.11.2023** **N.P.A. Date: (e) 04.07.2023**	**Schedule – A:** All that piece and! parcel of land formed in converted land bearing **Sy. No. 184** (vide Official Memorandum No ALN(A)(SH)SR116/2012-13 dated 04.01.2013 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District,) situated at Kudlu Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore, now within the limits of the BBMP Katha No.1977/184, measuring 19.29 Guntas (21012 Sq.ft) out of 28.08 Guntas and bounded on:**East by** : Road and Remaining property of same Sy No 184; **West by** : Survey No 185; **North by** : Remaining property of Sy no.184; **South by** : Remaining property and Parappana Agrahara boundary. **Schedule – B:** All that piece parcel of the **Flat No.G-14 in Ground Floor** having **super built up area of 860 sq. feet** with an undivided 280 sq. feet of share, right, title and interest in the land / Schedule 'A' Property and **one covered car parking in "SAI ASHIRWADH PARADISE" Block "A"** constructed on the Schedule 'A' Property with RCC framed structure, Concrete Block Masonry, Main door teak frame and Steam Breach Veneered polish able flush Shutter and room doors sal wood with water proof flush shutters, Powder coated aluiminum windows with glass & safety grills, vitrified tiles for living, rooms and kitchen, Ceramic flooring for balcony and toilets etc. and bounded as follows: **East by** : OTS and Corridor, **West by** : Survey No 185; **North by** : Flat No. G-15; **South by** : OTS and Flat No. G-13.
6	**Mrs. Radhika Viswakarma (Borrower)** **Mr. Ramnivas Vishwa Karma (Co-Borrower)** **Both are residing at:** No.105, Sundar Paradise A Block, AECS Layout, 4th Cross, Kundanahalli, Bengaluru 560037. **Also at:** Villa-155, Plot-90A, Reviera, Marasur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru 562106 **Mrs. Radhika Viswakarma (Borrower)** **Raj Interior Works,** **Designation:** Proprietor No 3037, 1st Floor, 8th Main, Indiranagar, Indira Nagar, Bengaluru 560038	**Loan Account No. 619154777 Rs.38,13,033/- (Rupees Thirty Eight Lakh Thirteen Thousand Thirty Three Only) as on 31.10.2023**	**27.11.2023** .... **N.P.A. Date: (e) 04.07.2023**	**Schedule A: Item -1:** All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing **Sy No.344,** measuring 2 Acres 36 guntas, converted vide Official Memorandum dated 04.12.2008 bearing No.ALN(A)(K&V) SR-16/06-07 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore, situated at Marasur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk and bounded on the: **East by :** Land bearing Sy.No.345 and Road, **West by :** Land bearing Sy.No.347, 348 and Sy.No.456, **North by :** Land bearing Sy.No.345, **South by :** Land bearing Sy.No.343 and 458. **Item -2:** All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing **Sy No.347,** measuring 1 Acres 16 guntas, and Sy No.348, measuring 1 Acre 15 Guntas, totally measuring **2 Acres 31 Guntas**, converted vide Official Memorandum dated 19.11.2008, bearing No. ALN(A) (K&V) SR-15/06-07, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore, situated at Marasur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk and bounded on the: **East by :** Land bearing Sy.No.344, **West by :** Land bearing Sy.No.347, **North by :** Land bearing Sy.No.343, **South by :** Land bearing Sy.No.456. **Item – 3:** All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing **Sy No.347**, measuring 1 Acres 22 guntas, and **Sy No.348,** measuring 1 Acre 20 Guntas, **totally measuring 3 Acres 2 guntas** converted vide Official Memorandum dated 19.11.2008, bearing No.ALN(A)(K&V)SR-18/06-07 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore, situated at Marasur Village , Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk and bounded on the : **East by** : Land bearing Sy.No.347, West by : Land bearing Sy.No.350, **North by :** Land bearing Sy.No.345, **South by :** Land bearing Sy.No.455. **Item - 4:** All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing **Sy No.455,** measuring 1 Acre, converted vide Official Memorandum 19.11.2008, bearing No.ALN(A)(K&V)SR- 18/06-07 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore, situated at Marasur Village , Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk and bounded on the : **East by :** Land bearing Sy.No.348, 456, **West by :** Land bearing Sy.No.455/2 and 435, **North by :** Land bearing Sy.No.349, **South by :** Remaining portion land bearing Sy.No.455. **Item – 5:** All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing **Sy No.458,** measuring 1 Acres 25 guntas, converted vide Official Memorandum dated 17.11.2008 bearing No.ALN(K&V)SR-59/2008-09 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore, situated at Marasur Village , Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk and bounded on the : **East by :** Land bearing Sy.No.343, **West by :** Land bearing Sy.No.456, Sy.No.457, Sy.No.459 and Sy.No.460, **North by :** Land bearing Sy.No.344, **South by :** Land bearing Sy.No.460 and Sy.No.461. **Item -6:** All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing **Sy No,461/1** measuring 07 guntas, Sy.No.461/5 measuring 15 guntas, Sy.No.461/6 measuring 08 guntas totally measuring 30 guntas, converted vide Official Memorandum dated 04.09.2010, bearing No.ALN(K6sV)SR-28/2010-II issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore, situated at Marasur Village , Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk and bounded on the : **East by :** land bearing Sy.Nos.461/2,461/3 and 461/5. **West by :** land bearing Sy.No.458, **North by :** land bearing Sy.No.458, **South by :** land bearing Sy.No.460. **Item -7:** All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing **Sy No.343/1,** measuring 1 Acre 26 guntas, converted vide Official Memorandum dated 17.11.2008 bearing No.ALN(K&A)SR 56/2008-09 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore, situated at Marasur Village , Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk and bounded on the : **East by :** Halla, **West by :** Land bearing Sy.No.458, **North by :** Land bearing Sy.No.344, **South by :** remaining land in Sy.No.343. **Schedule B:** All the piece and parcel of Plot bearing **No. 155,** V.P.Katha No. 3533/155, having PID No. 150200101800403596, being converted residential lands measuring East to West 15 mts, North to South 9 mts, in all measuring (135mts) in the Schedule 'A' Property situated at Marasur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore, the name of the Project/layout, which shall be always known as **"REVIERA"** and bounded on the: **East by :** Plot bearing No-166, **West by :** Road, **North by :** Plot bearing No-156, **South by :** Plot bearing No-154.
7	**Mr. Paarika Krishnaiah (Borrower)** **Mrs. Paarika Laxmi Prasanna (Co-Borrower-1)** **M/S Sri Lakshmi Krishna Interior Decorator Printing and Electrical Works (Co-Borrower-2)** **Represented by Mr. Paarika Krishnaiah** **All are residing at:** Flat.No-004, Gorund Floor, Block-23, VBHC Vaibhava-Block E1to E5 (23to27), Byagadadenahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru 562120. **Mr. Paarika Krishnaiah (Borrower)** **Sri Lakshmi Krishna Interior Decorator Printing and Electrical Work, Designation:** Proprietor, **M/S Sri Lakshmi Krishna Interior Decorator Printing and Electrical Works (Co-Borrower-2) both are residing at:** Sri Lakshmi Krishna, Anekal Main Road, No 224 Chandapur Surya City, Tavarekere, Bengaluru 560081.	**Loan A/c No: 624377363 Rs.11,46,912/- (Rupees Eleven Lakh Forty Six Thousand Nine Hundred and Twelve Only) as on 31.10.2023**	**27.11.2023** **N.P.A. Date: (e) 04.07.2023**	All that piece and parcel of residential two bedroom apartment bearing **No.004, in the Ground Floor, in Block No.23,** of the building known as **"VBHC VAIBHAVA",** having a super built up area of 647 Sq. feet along with None open car parking space with proportionate share of 321 sq. feet of undivided share, right title and interest in the land bearing Sy No.9/1A, 9/1B, 9/2, 10/1, 93, 93, 93, 95/1, 95/2, 95/2, 95/2, 8, 9/3 & 10/2, and Presently bearing Gram Panchayath (Khatha) Property ID Number 150200101300720526, situated at Byagadadenahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore and bounded on the: **East by** : Flat No.003, **West by** : Flat No.006, **North by** : Flat No.001, **South by :** Road.
8	**Mr. K Santhosh (Borrower),** No. 43, First Main Road, Prathiksha Arcade, SVG, Moodalapalya, Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru 560072 **Also at:** No.524, 13th Cross, 28th Main, J.P. Nagar, 1st Phase, Bengaluru - 560 028. **Mr. K Santhosh (Borrower) Info Laser Tech,** **Designation:** Proprietor, **M/S Info Laser Tech (Co-Borrower)** Represented by Mr. K Santhosh, No.4, 14th E Cross, 4th Main, Rajajinagar, K Kamraj Road, Bengaluru 560042. **Also at:** Unit-21, KNS Ojas Phase 1, Sulikere and Kenchanapura Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru 560060.	**Loan A/c No: (1) 646916436 Rs.27,88,657/- (2) 650050248 Rs.51,849/- Total Amount Rs.28,40,506/- (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakh Forty Thousand Five Hundred and Six Only) as on 31.10.2023**	**30.11.2023** **N.P.A. Date: (e) 03.08.2023**	**Schedule Property:** All that piece & parcel of the Converted land bearing **Sy.Nos.86 & 87, totally measuring 09 Acres 36 Guntas,** situated at Sulikere Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru (This property has been converted for non-agricultural residential purpose, vide Conversion Order dated 03.12.2016, bearing No.A.L.N:(S) SR(K)/24/2016-17, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru District, Bengaluru) both the lands situate adjacent to each other and having common boundary: **East by :** Land in Sy.Nos.78 8s 85, **West by :** Land in Sy.No.7, **North by :** Kenchanapura Village Border, **South by :** Land in Sy.No.9. **Schedule A Property:** All that piece & parcel of the Converted land bearing **Sy.No.86, measuring 03 Acres 37 Guntas** (out of 04 Acres 37 Guntas) and Converted land bearing **Sy.No.87,** measuring **04 Acres 39 Guntas,** totally measuring **08 Acres 36 Guntas,** situated at Sulikere Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru (This property has been converted for non agricultural residential purpose, vide Conversion Order dated 03.12.2016, bearing No.A.L.N:(S)SR(K)/24/2016-17, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru District, Bengaluru) both the lands situate adjacent to each other and having common boundary: **East by :** Remaining portion of the same Sy.No.86, **West by :** Land in Sy.No.7, **North by :** Kenchanapura Village Border, **South by :** Land in Sy.No.9. **Schedule B Property:** All that piece and parcel of Residential **Site bearing No.21,** V.P. Katha No.413/86/21 & E-Katha Ho.150200301900920843, measuring East to West : 12.19 meter and North to South : 9.14 meter, totally measuring **111.42 Square meter,** in the Layout known as **"KNS OJAS PHASE-I"** formed as per the Layout Plan sanctioned by the Bengaluru Development Authority vide No.BDA/TPM/PRL-43/2016-17/1041/2018-19, dated:03.09.2018, formed in Sy.Nos.86 & 87 (Schedule "A" Property), situated at Sulikere Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded on: **East by :** Site Nos. 11 & 12, **West by :** Road, **North by :** Site No.22, **South by :** Site No.20.

*with further interest @ 18% p.a. as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc incurred till the date of payment and / or realization. If the said Borrower (s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) fail to make payment to **HDFC Bank Limited** as aforesaid, then **HDFC Bank Limited** shall proceed against the above Secured Asset / Immovable Property under Section 13 (4) of the said Act and the applicable Rules entirely at the risk of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) as to the costs and consequences.

The said Borrower (s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) are prohibited under the said Act to transfer the aforesaid Secured Asset / Immovable Property, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of **HDFC Bank Limited**. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the Act or Rules made thereunder shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Date : 11.12.2023
Place: Bangalore

For HDFC Bank Ltd.
Sd/- Authorized Officer of HDFC Bank Ltd. under SARFAESI Act, 2002

IN THE COURT OF THE 1st ADDL. SR. CIVIL JUDGE, BANGALORE RURAL DISTRICT AT BANGALORE RURAL

P & SC No. 29/2023

BETWEEN : 1. SRI. PHANI SHANKAR PALANI RAMAMURTHY, S/o. Late Sri. PK Ramamurthy, Aged about 35 years, R/a. C-706, Rohan Mihira Apt, Ext AECS Layout, Chinapanahalli, Varthur Hobli, Kundalahalli, Bangalore - 560037.

2. SRI. DHARAM KALYAN PALANI RAMAMURTHY, S/o. Late. Sri. PK Ramamurthy, Aged about 44 years, R/a. C-706, Rohan Mihira Apt, Ext AECS Layout, Chinapanahalli, Kundalahalli, Bangalore - 560037.

...Petitioners

AND : NIL ...Respondent

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the Petitioner above named has filed a petition under section 372 of the Indian Succession Act, for grant of succession certificate in favour of the Petitioners herein in respect to the Schedule Property standing in the name of Late Sri. P.K. Ramamurthy who died intestate on 18.07.2021 who last resided at Flat No. 102, M.V. Vaishnavi Apartments, Brookefield, Kundalahalli, Bangalore-560037.

The above matter is coming for hearing **on 12.01.2024** Persons interested in the matter may appear before this court in person or through their Advocate on that day at 11:00 am, to file their objections, if any, for issue of the said succession certificate. Failing which the matter shall be heard and determined exparte.

SCHEDULE

List of shares held under the "Stocks, Options and Exchange Traded Funds" of shares held in DEMAT Account FD and RD Accounts and Savings Bank Accounts as its value on 21.11.2023.

Sl. No.	Name of Company / Bank	Folio / Account No.	Value in Rs.
1	HDFC Bank DEMAT	DPID No. IN301151 Client ID No. 27856094	1,02,45,096
2	State Bank of India DEMAT	DP ID : IN306114 Client ID No. 90451846	6,33,718
	State Bank of India DEMAT	DP ID : IN300351 Client ID No. 30051864	5,85,156
3	HDFC Bank FD	50300493530748	55,299
4	HDFC Bank FD	50300493530942	55,299
5	HDFC Bank FD	50300493531741	55,299
6	HDFC Bank FD	50300493531916	44,237
7	HDFC Bank FD	50300497982761	44,529
8	HDFC Bank FD	50300497983021	44,529
9	HDFC Bank FD	50300522601306	87,550
10	SBI FD	37891187772	11,648
11	SBI FD	38575799674	35,000
12	SBI FD	38576579089	30,000
13	SBI FD	38681208548	10,000
14	SBI FD	39799688623	10,000
15	SBI FD	39991539397	10,000
16	SBI RD	39424772706	67,078
17	SBI RD	39597847210	60,000
18	SBI RD	39799728500	1,00,000
19	HDFC Savings	10461570000047	33,847
20	SBI Savings	10031469347	Not Known
21	Canara Bank Savings	0426101029203	Not Known
22	HDFC Bank Savings Account	02611570002321	20,702
23	HDFC Bank Savings Account	17501570002665	10,832
24	SBI Savings Account	10031452902	Not Known
	TOTAL	**Rs.**	**1,22,49,819/-**

Given under my hand and the seal of the court on this the 7th day of December 2023.

By order of the Court, Chief Ministerial Officer, Senior Civil Judge's Court, Bangalore Rural Dist., Bangalore.

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

CUB TRUST AND EXCELLENCE SINCE 1904

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in,
Ph : 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

POSSESSION NOTICE (Immovable Properties)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **City Union Bank Ltd.,** having its **Administrative Office** at **No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612001** and one of the Branch Offices at **No.349, Komarala Towers, OTC Road, Chickpet Main Road, Bengaluru Urban, Bengaluru-Sultanpet Branch** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) & (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice Dated **10-08-2023** followed by Paper Publication Dated **29-09-2023** calling upon the borrowers **No.1) Mr. Bhundaram, S/o. Joraramji, No.11/5, C.K.C.Garden, Mission Road, Wilson Garden, Bangalore - 560027. Also At, Mr. Bhundaram, S/o. Joraramji, No.1045/750, Above Samsung Show Room, Choulyru Palya, Near G T World Mall, Magadi Road, Bangalore - 560023. No.2) Mrs. Chouthi Devi, W/o. Bhundaram, No.11/5, C.K.C.Garden, Mission Road, Wilson Garden, Bangalore - 560027. Also At, Mrs. Chouthi Devi, W/o. Bhundaram, No.1045/750, Above Samsung Show Room, Choulyru Palya, Near G T World Mall, Magadi Road, Bangalore - 560023. No.3) M/s. De Zone Collection, 2nd Floor, Shop No.41, LUM Plaza, D S Lane, Chickpet, Bangalore - 560053. Also At, M/s. De Zone Collection, No.26, 2nd Floor, D K Lane, Behind S S Jain, Chickpet Cross, Bangalore - 560053. Also At, M/s. De Zone Collection, Shop No.9, Basement Floor, Sharma Complex, Chick Pet, Bangalore - 560053** to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice being **Rs.39,19,412/- (Rupees Thirty Nine Lakh Nineteen Thousand Four Hundred and Twelve only)** within **60 days** from the date of the said Notice with subsequent interest thereon from **08-08-2023** with monthly rests.

The borrowers above named having failed to repay the amount despite the receipt of the above referred statutory notice, NOTICE is hereby given to the borrowers above named and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the Properties described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this 06th day of December 2023.

The borrowers above named in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of City Union Bank Ltd. for an amount of **Rs.37,82,815/- (Rupees Thirty Seven Lakh Eighty Two Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifteen only)** and interest thereon from **06-12-2023** till the repayment of entire dues.

The borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Note : That our **054-Bengaluru-Sultanpet Branch** has also extended Financial Assistance (SECURED OD WITHOUT DP : 512120020034292) dated **28-02-2020** requested by No.3 of you represented by No. 2 of you as Proprietrix for which Nos.2 & 3 of you stood as Co-obligants for the facility for a total amount of **Rs.10,00,000/-** at a **ROI** of **13%** and the outstanding balance as on **05-12-2023** is **Rs. 10,24,458/-** plus further interest and penal interest of **2.00%** with monthly rests to be charged from **06-12-2023** till the date of realization.

Immovable Properties Mortgaged to our Bank

Schedule - A

Property - 1 : (Properties Owned by Mr. Bhundaram, S/o. Joraramji)

All that Piece and Parcel of the Immovable Property Bearing Site No.38/5, Located at Bangalore, Doddabayalu Khane, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore, C K C Garden, Old Ward No.48, New No.118, Measuring : East to West (65 + 66)/2 Feet and North to South (40 + 28)/2 Feet, Totally Measuring about 2,227 Sq.Ft. and Bounded on the : East by : Remaining Portion of Property belongs to Mrs. Lalana, North by : Road, South by : Property of Chennamma School, West by : Private Property.

Schedule - B

Flat Bearing No.301, in Third Floor of the Apartment Building Known as Advaith Ashray Having a Super Built-up-Area of 853 Sq.Ft., Vitrified and Semi Vitrified Flooring, Doors and Windows made out of Sal Wood with all amenities, Containing 2 Bedrooms, together with 263 Sq.Ft. Undivided Share of Land Comprised in Schedule - A Property With One Car Parking Basement.

Place : Bangalore, Date : 06-12-2023 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287,
Telephone No. 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

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CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

CUB TRUST AND EXCELLENCE SINCE 1904

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in,
Ph : 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

PUBLICATION - DEMAND NOTICE

Notice under Section 13(2) of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 - Sent on **21-10-2023** by Registered Post with Acknowledgement Due and the same was **returned by Mr. Ravindra Tharigopula.** Hence this.

No.1) M/s. DLR Constructions Pvt. Ltd., No-230, 4th Main, NRI Layout, Near HDFC Bank, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bangalore - 560016. No.2) Mr. M. Lokeshwara Naidu, S/o. Mr. M. Nagappa, Flat No.402, Sabarmathi Enclave Apartment, 4th Main, NRI Layout, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bangalore - 560016. No.3) Mr. Ravindra Tharigopula, S/o. Mr. T. Sanjeevu, Flat No.25, Sabarmat No.244 Enclave, 4th Main, Bangalore - 560016. No.4) Mr. Damoddar Galla, S/o. Mr. Galla Narayana Flat No. 102, C.B.R. Residency, Beside HP Gas, Lanco Hills Road, Manikonda, Puppalguda, Telangana - 500089.

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Sub : Loan account / Overdraft with City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Banaswadi Branch in the name of M/s. DLR Constructions Pvt. Ltd.,

The Bank issued notice under the SARFAESI Act on **21-10-2023** calling upon Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080072359 is **Rs.13,73,857/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakh Seventy Three Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Seven only);** Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080042336 is **Rs.94,33,797/- (Rupees Ninety Four Lakh Thirty Three Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Seven only);** Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080088018 is **Rs.15,51,413/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Fifty One Thousand Four Hundred and Thirteen only),** as on **10-10-2023** with further interest for 501812080042336 at **13.25%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded), 501812080072359 at **9.25%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded), 501812080088018 at **9.25%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded) with monthly rests from **11-10-2023** till the date of repayment. The Notice **sent to you by Registered Post have been received by Nos.1, 2 & 4 of you and returned by No.3.**

Therefore, we hereby once again call upon Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080072359 is **Rs.13,73,857/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakh Seventy Three Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Seven only);** Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080042336 is **Rs.94,33,797/- (Rupees Ninety Four Lakh Thirty Three Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Seven only);** Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080088018 is **Rs.15,51,413/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Fifty One Thousand Four Hundred and Thirteen only),** with further interest for 501812080042336 at **13.25%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded), 501812080072359 at **9.25%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded), 501812080088018 at **9.25%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded) with monthly rests from **11-10-2023** till the date of repayment within **60 days** from the date of this Notice failing which Bank will be Constrained to exercise its rights of enforcement of security interest as against the secured assets given in the Schedule hereunder. This Notice is published/issued without prejudice to any other right/remedy available to the Bank.

Note : That our **318-Bengaluru-Banaswadi Branch** has also extended Financial Assistance (FITL FOR COVID-19 RP : 501912090019362) dated **29-12-2020** requested by No.1 of you Represented by Nos. 2, 3 and 4 of you as Director for which Nos.2, 3 and 4 of you stood as Co-obligants and Nos. 2, 3 and 4 of you stood as Guarantors for the facility for a total amount of **Rs. 21,32,497/-** at a ROI of **13.25%** The same has been also classified as **NPA** on **19-08-2023** and the outstanding balance as on **10-10-2023** is **Rs.18,16,848/-** plus further interest and penal interest of **2.00%** with monthly rests to be charged from **11-10-2023** till the date of realization.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank

Schedule - A : (Property Owned by M/s. DLR Constructions Pvt. Ltd. Represented by Mr. Damodar Galla Mr. Lokeshwara Naidu and Mr. Ravindra Tharigopula)

All that piece and parcel of land bearing Site No.41, Old House List Khatha No.101/2, present BBMP Khatha No.448/373/376/41, Property Nos.373 and 376, situated at Kalkere Village, K.R.Puram, Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Measuring 9,995 Sq.feet. Presently under the administrative Jurisdiction of BBMP. With all rights, appurtenances Whatsoever hereunder or underneath or above the surface and bounded on : East by : Site No.40, West by : Road, North by : Road, South by : Site No.31. Measurement : East - West - 99.95 ft., North - South - 100 ft., Total - 9,995.sq.ft.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 11-12-2023 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287,
Telephone No. 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

BEFORE THE IV ADDL. FAMILY JUDGE, FAMILY COURT AT BENGALURU

M. C. No. 3845 /2022

BETWEEN : SRI. SOMIRON FALIA S/o. Srl. Davi Falia, Aged about 36 years, Residing at Flat. No. 103, M.B. Castle No. 21 Bannerghatta Road, Himagiri Bus Stand, Kalena Agrahara, Bengaluru-560013. **PETITIONER**

AND SMT. PRIYANKA RATNA W/o. Sri. Somiron Falia, D/o. Sri. Prodip Ratna, Aged about 32 years, Residing at 3rd Cross, Chikka Beguru Road, Singasandra, Bengaluru-560068 **RESPONDENT**

PUBLIC NOTICE UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 (1A) OF THE CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE, 1908.

Whereas, the above named has made Petition to this Court under Section 10 (1) (i) (ix) (x) of INDIAN DIVORCE ACT, 1869 seeking relief to dissolve the marriage solemnized by and between the Petitioner and the Respondent on 14.06.2010 at MAGISTRATES OFFICE IN MARGHERITA, ASSAM, by a decree of divorce under Section 10 (1) (i) (ix) (x) of INDIAN DIVORCE ACT 1869.

The Respondent is hereby called to appear in this Court in person or by pleader duly instructed on **12-01-2024 at 11:00 A.M.** inform to show cause against the Petitioner failing wherein the appearance will be heard and declared as Ex-parte.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court, this 16th day of NOVEMBER 2023

By Order of the Court
Sd/- Senior Sheristedar
Family Court Bangalore

Address for service ARUN K.S Advocate
No.1387, Ground Floor, 6th Cross, Ashok Nagar, B.S.K. 1st Stage, Bengaluru - 560050.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our Client **SRI. NAGARAJU,** is the absolute owner of Site No.26, in physical possession more fully described in the schedule hereunder. Our client SRI. NAGARAJU, represented that, while taking Xerox have lost/misplaced Original Sale Deed dated 14/11/2002, registered as Document no.17058/2002-03, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar Bengaluru North Taluk, pertaining to the schedule property. Hence our client has lodged a complaint intimating the loss of original Sale deed, with jurisdictional Police Station Bengaluru City on Dated 08/12/2023. Any person finding the said original may please to hand over the same either to the undersigned or to the owner, if any person claiming any rights, title or interest based on the said deed should write the undersigned within 15 days of this public notice.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All That Piece and Parcel of the Immovable property bearing Site No.26, Gramatana Katha No.492, Assessment No.3/1A, Thotadaguddadahalli Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, Bengaluru, Measuring East to West 30 Ft and North to South 40 Ft, total measuring 1200 Sqft and bounded on; **EAST BY :** Site No.25, **WEST BY :** Site No.27, **NORTH BY:** Site No.32, **SOUTH BY :** Road.

SRI NANDI ASSOCIATES
REP. BY ITS
SRI. SIDDANANJAPPA. M.N.,
Advocate
Office: 1904, Prashanth Nagar Main Road, Bengaluru-560079.
Date: 08.12.2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the General Public that my clients Sri. Habeeb Khan, Shamshad Begum, Asifha Khanum, Noushan Tabsum, Imran Khan, Irfan Khan, Hamid Khan, Khaleem Khan, Aeisha, Ebrahim Khan, Imran Khan, Abdul Rehaman, Usman Khan, Fatima Bi, Aysa Tafasum, Nurulla, Arif, Shakila Banu, Syed Israr, Shavar, Sabrin Banu, Rukshad, Syed Anjum, Amrin Fatima, all residing at No. 19, 16th Cross, 47th Main Road, Sampangirama Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 027, are the joint owners in possession as tenants-in-common and they had executed a G.P.A dated 21/10/2016, Registered as Document No. MDP-4-00177-2016-17, stored in Book-IV, C.D. No. MDPD190, in favour of M/s. Melton Infra Build Pvt. Ltd. Rep. By its authorized representative Mr. M. Nithyananda and Mr.M.K. Satyan, hereinafter referred to as "Attorney Holders", with respect to property bearing Sy. No.211/1 (Old Sy. No.211), measuring about 1 Acre 18 Guntas, situated at Kadugodi Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, which is morefully described hereunder and hereinafter referred to as schedule property.

Whereas, the Attorney Holders have obtained the G.P.A dated 21/10/2016 by playing fraud upon my clients ie., the executors of GPA. Hence, my clients are hereby declaring that they have not executed the above mentioned G.P.A in favour of M/s. Melton Infra Build Pvt. Ltd. Rep. By its authorized representative Mr. M. Nithyananda and Mr.M.K. Satyan and the same is not binding on my clients. Any Conveyance Deed/s executed on the strength of the above G.P.A is Null and Void Ab-Initio and the same is not binding on my clients. The purchasers of these properties do not acquire any title over this property. Hence, this Public Notice.

Whereas, the Attorney Holders have been misusing the powers that are granted in the GPA dated 21/10/2016 and acting adverse to the interest of my client ie., the executors of GPA. Hence, it is brought to the notice of the general public that my clients are hereby cancelling and revoking the powers that were granted in favour of the Attorney Holders under G.P.A dated 21/10/2016. It is hereby made clear that the Attorney holders do not acquire any Right, Title or interest over the schedule property on strength of G.P.A dated 21/10/2016, with effect from this day.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Agricultural property bearing Sy.No. 211/1, measuring about 1 Acre 18 Guntas, situated at Kadugodi Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, and bounded on:

East by : Land belonging to Yusuf Khan, West by : Land belonging to Munira Mohammed Gouse, North by : Land belonging to Veeraswamy Reddy, South by : Dongara

GOVARDHAN. S, ADVOCATE
Off At. #FF13 'A', 1st Floor, Hameed Shah Complex, Cubbonpet Main Road, Bangalore-560002. Mobile No : 9972633481
Email: govardhan.peculiar@gmail.com
DATE : 11-12-2023

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PUBLIC NOTICE

My client, **M/s CAPTELA VENTURES Pvt. Ltd., Director, Mr. Prashanth G.V.,** is desirous to purchase the schedule property mentioned here below from Smt. Rathnamma, Mangamma and Roopamma, who are the owners of the schedule property.

Notice is hereby given to the general public that any person/s other than the owners, asserting any right/title/charge/lien/claims and any interest whatsoever in respect of the schedule property are hereby called upon to submit to the undersigned.

The said claims/objections must be in writing together with documentary proof of such claims and objections so has to reach us to address given below within a period of 15 days from the date of publication of this notice.

If no such claim/objections are received it shall be deemed that no one else otherthan the owners of the schedule property has/have any right/title/interest or claim whatsoever in respect of schedule property and my client would be at liberty to proceed with the said transactions in connection with the schedule property.

Property Schedule

All that piece and parcel of the Agricultural Dry Land to the extent of 0.05.08 Guntas in Sy. No.4/4, to the extent of 0.05.04 Guntas in Sy. No.4/2 and to the extent of 0.05.12 Guntas in Sy. No.4/9 Situated at Beguru Village, Jala Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore District with combined boundaries: East: Road West: Sy. No.4/5, 4/2 & 4/9 North : Sy. No.92 South: Main Road in Sy. No.4/3

(C JAYADEV., M.A., LL.B.) Advocate.
Mob:9686606045/9945281774
Date: 08-12-2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

(LOSS OF SALE DEED)

The General Public are hereby notice that my client **Mr.Mahadeva Rao** C/o Mr.Shankara Rao, residing at Vetornity Hospital, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, PO:Ragihalli, Sub-District Anekal, Bangalore. Our client is the absolute owner of the property bearing Sy.No.6/19, measuring 0.01guntas, Situated at Begihalli village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, our client has informed that while travelling from Majestic Bus Stop to Anekal, he has lost the Original sale deed bearing document no.3962/2016-17, of Book No.I, dated 17.10.2016, CD.No.JGND446, registered in the office of Sub-Registrar Basavanagudi(Jigani), after his best effort to search he could not trace out the same, in this regard-our client has lodged a complaint intimating the loss of said original sale deed vide Lost Report No.0839506/2023 dated 07.12.2023 to Crime Branch, Bengaluru City Police and it is requested to the General Public that if it is found they may be handed over to the address given below, it is made clear that if the above mentioned original sale deed is used for any wrongful and illegal purpose, my client would not be liable for the same.

Bengaluru Dated: 09.12.2023
Sri Ram Law Consultancy
No.17/120, 6th Cross, 8th Main, Ganesha Block, Mahalakshmi Layout, Bengaluru-560096

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to the General Public as well as the all the Department of Central and State Government that I, LAKSHMI W/o T K Radheshyam Balaji, aged about 59 years, residing at No. 110, 5 B, Ebony, Vaishnavi Serene, IVRI Road, Behind CRPF Campus, Yelahanka, Bengaluru-560045, and my name in Sale Deed dated 07.11.2022 has been mentioned as "LAKSHMI BALAJI" do hereby declare that I am also known **"LAKSHMI LAKSHMI NARAYANAN"** and **Date of Birth 06.06.1964** thereby the above all names and date of birth belongs to **"LAKSHMI LAKSHMI NARAYANAN"** is one and same and refers to me only vide Affidavit dated 07.12.2023 sworn to before R. Sulakshana, Advocate & Notary Public, Bengaluru.

LOST AND FOUND

I, Varalakshmi, have lost the Original Sale Deed dated 21-11-1960 bearing Document No.3826/1960-61 of my land in Sy.No.171/2 in favour of my late mother Gowramma. I have misplaced the same while I was travelling to City Civil Court Bangalore. Complaint is lodged before Hebbagoddi Police Station dated 09-12-2023 under GSC No:PO1333230602412. If found please report to: Varalakshmi Phone No:9972146814

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN: U40109KA1999SGCO25521)

No.:SEE/EE/Tr/W&M/DVG/AEE-1/F-114/23-24/Cys-63 Date: 08.12.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(kppp portal mode only)

KPTCL E-Tenders are invited in the prescribed form from Reputed **Electrical Contractor possessing Super Grade Electrical Contractor** License for the following works in Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Davanagere.

1) Bid Enquiry No.: KPTCL/SEE/W&M/DVG/EE/AEE-1/23-24/15 Dated: 07.12.2023 for **Providing 66KV Bus Sectionalizer and 1 No. of 66KV PT Bay for Bus-2 at existing 220/66/11KV SRS Davanagere in TL & SS Division, Davanagere.**

Tenders will be accepted through kppp Mode Only. For further details, prospective Bidders are advised to log on to **website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** & click on to **hyperlink "e-procurement-kptcl"** to participate in e-procurement portal on or **after 11.12.2023.**

Sd/-, Superintending Engineer, (Ele), Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Near Stadium, Hadadi Road, Davangere.

भारत सरकार - अंतरिक्ष विभाग / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह, एसडीएससी-शार / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP, SDSC-SHAR
श्रीहरिकोटा / नेल्लूर (जिला), आं.प्र./ SRIHARIKOTA - 524124

संक्षिप्त ई–निविदा सूचना / Brief E-TENDER NOTICE

ई–निविदा सूचना सं. / e- Tender Notice No: SHAR / CMD / E / V 2387222 / 2023-24, SHAR / CMD / E / W 2387223 / 2023-24, SHAR / CMD / E / X 2387224 / 2023-24, PT-E-23-029 तिथि/ Date. 01.12.2023

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, **1. "रॉकेट मॉडल और इसरो प्रतीक, स्पेस थीम पार्क, एसडीएससी शेयर के लिए प्रकाश व्यवस्था" (अनुमानित लागतः ₹60.64 लाख), 2. "ठोस नोदक ज्वलन दर के मूल्यांकन हेतु पराश्रव्य ज्वलन दर (अल्ट्रासोनिक बर्न रेट) (यूबीआर) परीक्षण सुविधा के लिए विद्युत कार्य" (अनुमानित लागतः ₹170.75 लाख),** के लिए ई–निविदा के माध्यम से मद दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा दस्तावेज **24.12.2023** को **14:30** बजे तक डाउनलोड किए जा सकते हैं। **3. "132 केवी श्रीहरिकोटा मास्टर सबस्टेशन के लिए विद्युत कार्य –पैकेज IV" (अनुमानित लागतः ₹245.53 लाख,** के लिए ई–निविदा के माध्यम से मद दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा दस्तावेज **31.12.2023** को **14:30** बजे तक डाउनलोड किए जा सकते हैं। विस्तृत सूचना हेतु इच्छुक निविदाकार हमारी वेबसाइट **www.isro.gov.in** या **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** पर जा सकते हैं।

On behalf of President of India, Item Rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for **1. "Lighting for Rocket Models and ISRO Emblem, Space Theme Park." (Estimated cost: ₹60.64 Lakhs), 2."Electrical works for Ultrasonic Burn Rate (UBR) Test facility". (Estimated cost: ₹170.75 Lakhs),** Tender documents can be downloaded up to **24.12.2023, 14:30** hrs. **3. "Electrical works for 132 kV Sriharikota Master Substation Package IV" (Estimated cost: ₹245.53 Lakhs),** Tender documents can be downloaded up to **31.12.2023, 14:30hrs** . Interested tenderers may visit **www.isro.gov.in** or **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** for details.

हस्ताक्षरित- समूह प्रधान, सीएमजी / एसडीएससी शार / Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG / SDSC SHAR

SHIVAMOGGA, DAVANAGERE AND CHITRADURGA DIST CO-OPERATIVE MILK PRODUCER'S SOCIETIES UNION LTD.,
Machenahalli, Nidige Post, Shivamogga – 577 222

IFT:No:SDCMUL/PUR/E.Proc/Tender-281D/7346/2023-24 Date: 05.12.2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

Through GOK E-Procurement Portal only - Logon to: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Shivamogga, Davanagere and Chitradurga Dist Co-Operative Milk Producer's Societies Union Ltd., invites in two tender document system i.e., technical and commercial system from the manufactures or from interested eligible bidders for supply of following materials.

S.N	Particulars	Qty	EMD in ₹
1	Supply of Fodder Sorghum to Shivamogga Dairy	40,000 Kg	80,000/-
2	Supply of Fodder Maize to Shivamogga Dairy	20,000 Kg	40,000/-
3	Supply of Fodder Cowpea to Shivamogga Dairy	5,000 Kg	12,500/-
4	Supply, Installation of Automatic Horizontal Flow Wrap Machine HP500 to Shivamogga Dairy	01 Nos	20,000/-
5	Printing, Supply and Installation of Acrylic Hanging Board in the Specified Area/ Location of Shivamogga, Davanagere & Chitradurga	100 Nos	6,250/-
6	Annual Rate Contract for Multi Colour Wall Painting in the specified Area / Location of Shivamogga, Davanagere & Chitradurga	1,50,000 Sq.ft.	93,750/-
7	Supply of 400 ltrs capacity Visi Cooler with 1 KVA Capacity Stagilizer to Shivamogga Dairy, Davanagere Dairy & Chitradurga Chilling Center	35 Nos	35,000/-
8	Supply and Installation of Heavy Duty Printer to Shivamogga Dairy	02 Nos	25,000/-
9	Annual Rate Contract for Supply of Bengal Gram Dal (Channa Dal) to Machenahalli Shivamogga Dairy	8,000 Kg	15,000/-
10	Annual Rate Contract for Supply of Masala Butter Milk Blend to Machenahalli Shivamogga Dairy	350 Kg	23,300/-
11	Supply, Installation and Training of Automatic Milk Collection Unit with Milk Analyzer to SDCMUL MPCS	12 Nos	45,000/-
12	Annual Rate Contract for Supply of 75 GSM A-4 Size Xerox Paper to Shivamogga Dairy	2,000 Ream	11,500/-
13	Annual Rate Contract for Supply of Cashew Splits to Shivamogga Dairy	1,200 Kg	24,000/-
14	Annual Rate Contract for Supply of Caustic Soda Lye on Liquid Solution basis in 75 Kgs Carboys and empty Carboys on returnable basis to Shivamogga Dairy	1,62,000 Kg	1,88,360/-

1. Tender Documents may be downloaded from the e-Procurement Portal of GOK from : 11.12.2023
2. Last date for uploading the filled Tender documents : on or before 19.12.2023 up to 16.00 Hours
3. Date of opening of Technical Tender : 20.12.2023 at 17.00 Hours
4. Date of opening of Commercial Tender : 21.12.2023 at 17.00 Hours

The bidder may download the tender documents with the Technical Specification & Terms & conditions of the tender by paying e-portal fees.

The details regarding participation for this tender can be obtained by login to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Any additional information regarding tender may be obtained from A.M (Pur) during office hours, e-mail id: **dmpur.shimul@gmail.com** contact nos: **08182-246161, Mob: 7760971951.**

Sd/- Managing Director,
Shimoga, Davanagere and Chithradurga Dist.
Co-Ope Milk Producers' Society Union Ltd., Shimoga

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.

Corporate Office : 802, Natraj By Rustomjee, Western Express Highway, Sir M.V. Road, Andheri East, Mumbai - 400069, Maharashtra.
Jayanagar Branch : Office No. 180, Amrutha, 5th Main, 4th Block West, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560011,(KA).

APPENDIX IV POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub –section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of AHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

Sl No.	Name of the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Date of Possession
1	(COMBINE LOAN CODE_NO. 18800002409 & 18800003497 Jayanagar Branch) Shanthasri V (Borrower) Venkatesh V (Co Borrower)	12 3 Site No 39 Theatre Road Sarada School Beside Attibele Village Anekal Tk, Bengaluru - 562107, Karnataka. Bounded on : **East by :** Site Bearing No 38, **West by :** Site Bearing No 40, **North by :** Site Bearing No 26 and **South by :** Road.	16-06-2023 ₹ 5,11,249.00 (Rupees Five Lakhs Eleven Thousand Two Hundred Forty Nine Only.) & ₹ 5,15,708.00 (Rupees Five Lakhs Fifteen Thousand Seven Hundred Eight Only.)	06-12-2023

Place : Jayanagar
Date : 11.12.2023

Authorised Officer
Aadhar Housing Finance Limited

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, RAICHUR

[ICAR, NAAC accredited and UGC u/s 12(B) & 2(f) approved]
Stores Purchase Officer, UAS, Raichur – 584104,
E-mail: spo@uasraichur.edu.in Ph: 08532-220165

E-Tender Notification No.SPO/UASR/RC/E-Proc-02/2023-24,Dt: 05-12-2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur is inviting e-tender for Supply of Glassware, Chemicals & Laboratory Consumables at UAS, Raichur. The interested suppliers are requested to participate through online only. The website address is www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in (Indent Number:-UASRCR/2023-24/IND0005. The last date for submission of filled in Tender Document is 26-12-2023.

SD/- Stores Purchase Officer
UAS, Raichur.

DIP/RCR/285/KSMC&A/Job No.282/2023-24

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. CEE/TZ/KLB/Civil/2023-24/12035 **Date: 07.12.2023**

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited Transmission Zone, Kalaburagi invites tender for the work of "Providing switchgear platform & shelter security fencing & other allied works at 110kV sub-station premises, Afzalpur" through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal.

The bids will be received through electronic tendering mode only. The detailed notifications regarding subject enquiry in the E-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in on hyperlink "E-Procurement KPTCL" or directly to https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 11.12.2023. Any other details can be had from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, Electy, Transmission Zone, KPTCL, Prasarana Bhavan, Sedam Road, Kalaburagi-585106.

GIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD.

CORPORATE OFFICE / HEAD OFFICE : GICHFL, National Insurance Building, 6th floor, J. T. Road, Next to Astoria Hotel, Churchgate, Mumbai, 400 020 **Tel.:** (022) 43041900
Email: corporate@gichf.com **Website:** www.gichfindia.com
Bangalore Branch Office : Leo Shopping Complex, 3rd Floor, No. 44 & 45, Residency Road Cross, Bangalore 560025; **Phone:** 080-42006017/18/19 **Email:** bangalore@gichfindia.com
ELECTRONIC CITY BRANCH : 96/1 Gobind tower, 2nd floor, Hosure Main Road, Singasandra, Bangalore - 560068 **Phone No :** 080-41453621 **Branch Email :** electronic.city@gichfindia.com

POSSESSION NOTICE

REF: POSSESSION NOTICE UNDER SUB-RULE(1) OF RULE 8 OF THESECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

WHEREAS the undersigned being the authorized office of **GICHFL**, pursuant to the demand notice issued on its respective dates, under section 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon Borrowers, the under named, to pay outstanding dues within **60 days** from the date of the respective notices. The Borrowers have failed to pay the said outstanding dues within stipulated time, hence GICHFL is in exercise and having right as conferred under the provisions of sub section (4) of section 13 of SARFAESI ACT, 2002 read with rules thereunder, has taken **SYMBOLIC POSSESSION** of the Secured Assets as mentioned herein below.

Sr. No	Loan File No. / Branch Name / Name of the Borrower & Co-Borrower /	Address of the Mortgaged Property	Outstanding Dues As On 30.11.2023	Demand Notice Date	Date of Symbilic Possesion
1	**KA0020110002198/ BANGALORE / MR. SYLESH SATISH & MR GOVIND RAJULU SATISH**	House Plot No; 13 3rd Cross, Langford Road, Shanthi Nagar, Bangalore 560027. Measuring East to West 20 Feet and North to south 31 Feet total measuring Area 620 Sq Feet. North By: 20 feet wide Road, South By: Plot No.81,East By: P Akbar Khan's property West By: Peer Baigs property	Rs.18,66,215/-	18.07.2023	06.12.2023
2	**KA0020610002888/ BANGALORE / MR. K K SENTHIL & MRS. SENTHIL ILAVARASI**	Flat No.404, 4th Floor, Sri Sai Enclave Apartment, Sai City Layout, Halehalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore -560036 Total measuring Super built up Area 1161 Sq Feet. And the property is bounded on: East By: Common Passage & Flat No.403, West By: Open to Sky North By: Common Passage, Flat No.402 & Staircase, South By: Open to Sky & Flat No.406.	Rs.41,04,342/-	18.07.2023	06.12.2023
3	**KA0020610003664/ BANGALORE / MR. KUMAR NAVEEN**	House no.02, old property no.64/4, new property no.64/10, khatha no.64/4/10/2, 24th cross, maruthi nagar, kogilu village, yelahanka hobli, bangalore - 560064. Measuring east to west 42ft and north to south (23+20)/2ft, totally measuring 903sq.ft., and bounded on east by : site no.1 in same property, west by : site no.3 in same property, north by : road, south by : site no.4 in same property.	Rs.20,26,749/-	18.07.2023	06.12.2023
4	**KA0020610003804/ BANGALORE / MR. NARASAIAH NARAYANA MURTHY**	Flat No.107, First Floor, MVS Orchids Apt., Site No.53 to 70, Sy.No.30, Kavalahosahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli,Anekal Taluk, Bangalore-562106 Total measuring Super built up Area 1080 Sq Feet. And the property is bounded on: East By: Common Corridor, West By: Open to Sky, North By: Open to Sky and South By: Open to Sky.	Rs.47,30,162/-	18.07.2023	06.12.2023
5	**KA0021300104863 / BANGALORE / MR. HANUMANTHARAYAPPA M & MRS. LAXMIDEVI. T. L**	Property bearing house at No.13, Kasaba Hobli, Kodihalli, Doddaballapura, Bangalore Rural 560091, measuring East to West 30 Feet and North to south 40 Feet, in all totaly measuring Area 1200 Sq Feet and bounded on: East By: Site No.14, West By: Property belongs to Rangaiah, North By: Site No. 22 belonging to Hanumakka and South By: 20 feet Road.	Rs.3,12,230/-	18.07.2023	06.12.2023
6	**KA0021300104910/ BANGALORE / MR.JAYAPRAKASH. R & MRS. JESSICA MARY ANN**	Property bearing Site No.12&13 No.135/7, Ferns Avenue Layout, Horamavu village, Krishnarajapuram hobli, Bangalore south 560043, measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to south 65 Feet, totally measuring Area 2600 Sq Feet and bounded on: East By: Site No.10 and 11, West By: Road, North By: Grape Garden and South By: Site No.14.	Rs.19,57,989/-	18.07.2023	06.12.2023
7	**KA0590600000830/ YELAHANKA / MR. S. BABU S/O MR. SHEKAR**	FLAT NO.102, On FIRST FLOOR Of The PJC PRINCE APARTMENTS Consisting Of Two Bedrooms With Two Toilets, Kitchen, Dining And Living Room, Having A Super Built Up Area Of 1067Sq.Ft., Equipped With One Car Parking Slot, Vitrified Tiles Flooring Sanitary Electrical Wiring And Other Facilities, With 255Sq.Ft., Of Undivided Share Of Interest, Situated In The Layout Formed By The Air Craft Employee Co-Operative Housing Society Ltd, KUDLU VILLAGE, SARJAPURA HOBLI, ANEKAL TALUK, BANGALORE DISTRICT, (Secured Assets) And Bounded On: East by - Open to Sky, West by - Flat No.101, North by - Passage and South by - Open to Sky.	Rs.41,07,567/-	18.07.2023	06.12.2023
8	**KA0670600000401/ ELECTRONIC CITY / MR. HARISH SRINIVAS S/O MR. SRINIVAS & MRS. R. MOUNA W/O MR. HARISH. S**	Flat No.F-1, 1st Floor, Shirdi Sai Krupa Apartments, Site No.153, Property No.309, Bbmp Khatha No.49/4, 4th Cross, Riches Garden Layout, Nri Layout Phase-Ii, Kalkere Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore, Measuring Super Built Area Of 819 Sq.Ft., and bounded on: East By: Property Site No.152, West By: Property belongs to Site No.154, North By: Property belongs to Site No.164 and South By: 35 feet Road.	Rs. 27,96,415/-	18.07.2023	06.12.2023
9	**KA0670600000508/ ELECTRONIC CITY / MRS. V. G. SIRISHA W/O MR. V. GAJENDRA**	Flat No.501, 4th Floor, Sai Nivas Enclave Apartments, Site No.1236, Survey No.132/2 situated at 9th Cross, Ananthanagar Phase II, Kammasandra Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore, Measuring 999sq.Ft., Of Super Built Up Area and the property is bounded On: East by - Open to Sky, West by - Open to Sky, North by - Flat No.502 and South by - Open to Sky.	Rs.25,73,930/-	18.07.2023	06.12.2023
10	**KA0670600000625/ ELECTRONIC CITY / MS. MAVIDIPALLE JAHNAVI D/O MR. JAYARAMA NAIDU MAVIDIPALLE**	Flat No.504, 5th Floor, 'A' Block Slv Greens Apartments, Bbmp Khatha No.1101, Sy No's.68/5, 68/6 & 68/7 situated at Belathur Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore,-560067 With A Super Built Up Area Of 1,240 Sq.Ft., and the property is bounded on: East by - Flat No.505, West by - Open to Sky, North by - Flat No.503 and South by - Open to Sky.	Rs.49,03,156/-	18.07.2023	06.12.2023
11	**KA0670600000705/ ELECTRONIC CITY / MRS. AMULRANI RAJAGOPAL W/O MR. TAMILSELVAM. D & MR. TAMILSELVAM. D S/O MR. DORASWAMY**	Flat No.402, East Facing, 4th Floor, Lakven Homes Apartments, Site No's.57 & 58, New Khatha No.117 situated at Hoodi Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, Measuring 1085sq.Ft., Of Super Built Up Area and the property is bounded on: East by - Open to Sky, West by - Open to Sky, North by - Flat No.403 and South by - Flat No.401.	Rs.27,06,750/-	18.07.2023	06.12.2023
12	**KA0670600000739/ ELECTRONIC CITY / MR. ACHINTYA MANDAL S/O MR. KALIPADA MANDAL**	Property Bearing Site No.58, Property No.201/51, Survey No.51 situated at Bendiganahalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, Measuring East To West 48.54ft And North To South 30.08ft, In All Totally Measuring 1460.08 Sq.Ft., and the property is bounded on: East by - Private Property, West by - Road, North by - Site No.57 and South by - Site No.59.	Rs.39,91,890/-	18.07.2023	06.12.2023
13	**KA0670600000977/ ELECTRONIC CITY / MR. ARON ALEXANDER S/O MR. ANTHONY ALEXANDER**	Flat No.006, Ground Floor, Sri Nilaya Residency Apartments, Site No's.1481, 1482 & 1483, Survey No.10/3, 14th Cross, Shree Ananthnagar Phase-Ii, Kammasandra Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560100, Measuring Super Built Area Of 790 sq.Ft., and the property is bounded on: East by - Corridor & Flat No.002, West by - Open to Sky, North by - Corridor & Flat No.007 and South by - Flat No.005.	Rs.19,94,007/-	18.07.2023	06.12.2023
14	**KA0670600001031/ ELECTRONIC CITY / MR. SAMEER R RATNAPGOL S/O MR. RATNAPPA RAMAPPA RATNAPGOL & MRS. POONAM NINGONDA PATIL W/O MR. SAMEER R RATNAPGOL**	Flat No. 401, 4th Floor, Sukhada Enclave Apartments, Property Earlier Khatha No.148a, B & C, Present Bbmp Khatha No.93, 4th Main Road, G.M.Palya, Byrasandra Dhakale, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore-560017, Measuring Super Built Area Of 1025sq.Ft., and the property is bounded on: East by - House Property of Papanna's Children, West by - Road, North by - House Property of Vaddara Thimmaiah's Children and South by - Road.	Rs.27,53,208/-	18.07.2023	06.12.2023
15	**KA0670600001032/ ELECTRONIC CITY / MR. RAMESH KUMAR MUTCHI S/O MR. SANYASI RAO MUTCHI**	Flat No.202, 2nd Floor, Jai Platina Apartments, Site No's.F-28 & F-37, Bbmp Khatha No.63/F – 37/40, Property No.40, Situated At 2nd Cross, Alfa Garden Layout, Kodigehalli Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Ward No.54, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, Measuring Super Built Area Of 1380 Sq.Ft., and the property is bounded on: East by - Open to Sky, West by - Corridor & Flat No.206, North by - Flat No.201 and South by - Flat No.203.	Rs.44,38,274/-	18.07.2023	06.12.2023
16	**KA0670600001212/ ELECTRONIC CITY / MR. V MADHU BABU S/O MR. SUBRAMANYAM NAIDU & MRS. S. NETRAVATHI W/O MR. V. MADHU BABU**	Flat No.502, 5th Floor, Sri Sai Sinduja Residency Apartments, Site No's.88, 89, 108& 109, Situated At Arehalli Village, 1st Cross, 7th Main, Ward No.184, Nandakumar Layout, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore – 560061 With A Super Built Up Area Of 1,406 Sq Ft., and the property is bounded on: East by - Flat No.501, West by - Open to Sky, North by – Corridor & Flat No.503 and South by - Open to Sky.	Rs.45,12,681/-	18.07.2023	06.12.2023
17	**KA0670600001242/ ELECTRONIC CITY / MR. SYED NAYEEMUDDIN S/O MR. SYED NIZAMUDDIN**	Flat No.004, Ground Floor, Block 'A' Janya Gardenia Apartments, No.25, 1St Main Road, Kaverinagar, Nagawara, Ward No.95, R.t.nagar Post, Bangalore – 560032, Measuring Super Built Area Of 1395Sq.ft., And The Property Is Bounded On: East By - Flat No.003, West By - Open To Sky, North By - Stair Case, Lift & Flat No.001 And South By - Open To Sky.	Rs.65,75,768/-	18.07.2023	06.12.2023

FURTHER, to this notice, the Borrowers are hereby called upon to hand over vacant and peaceful possession of the respective properties to GICHFL within 7 days from the date of this notice, else the undersigned shall be constrained to proceed to take POSSESSION of the above properties forcibly and or shall proceed to sale the above said properties after a period of 30 days from the date hereon by adopting method/s provided under SARFAESIAct 2002 and rules thereto.

The BORROWERS and the **PUBLIC IN GENERAL** is hereby cautioned not to deal with the above referred Properties/Secured Assets or any part thereof and any dealing with the Properties/Secured Assets will be subject to charge of GICHFL for the amount mentioned hereinabove against the Propeerties/Secured Assets which is payable with the further interest thereon until payment in full.

Date : 11.12.2023
Place : Bangalore

For GIC Housing Finance Ltd.
Sd/-
Authorised Officer

EDITORIAL

Politics is about offering a vision that will bind the nation together to pursue greatness — Jonathan Haidt

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

POLITICAL CAPITAL OVER BIG BLACK MONEY HAUL FROM CONG NETA

EYE-POPPING images of almirahs full of cash in a distillery run by Jharkhand Congress MP Dheeraj Sahu in Odisha once again brought the obscenity of black money to the foreground. Their volume was so huge that half a dozen cash-counting machines of the income tax department conked off. The notes are still being counted as we go to print but their value is said to have gone past ₹300 crore. It is by far the highest-ever haul in any I-T raid. The previous record is said to be ₹160 crore during a raid in Chennai in 2018. Liquor business does generate lots of cash but keeping it off books and in such massive amounts is shocking. Besides, the value of seized jewellery and property documents is yet to be determined. Were the currency notes just his stash or did they include the dirty money of others, only Sahu can tell. Politicians are known to park their kickbacks with industrialists to stay off the tax radar.

Coming as the raids did ahead of the Lok Sabha elections where purging black money is an important poll plank, the Congress squirmed and sought to insulate the party from it. "Only Sahu can and should explain how such huge amounts of cash were unearthed from his premises," party leader Jairam Ramesh said, adding the party is in no way connected with his businesses. But BJP went for the Congress' jugular with Prime Minister Narendra Modi saying all the dirty money will be returned to the people. He went on to include it in the list of Modi's guarantees. Since the distillery is in Odisha, the BJP also pointed fingers at the BJD government there for its regulatory failure.

The 2016 demonetisation miserably failed in placing stents in the nation's arteries to remove the black money clots threatening its heart. Dirty money is a roach that survives all extermination attempts. The volume of currency pieces found in Sahu's distillery was humongous perhaps because ₹2,000 notes were sucked out in the last few months. Sahu is a three-time Rajya Sabha member who began his political career as a student leader in 1977. In his election affidavit, he had declared only a minuscule portion of the combined wealth of his family. The Election Commission of India ought to go after him to enforce accountability if it really wants to clean up the system.

THE EUROPEAN UNION'S CARBON TAX IS A BAD IDEA

UNION finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman recently minced no words in admonishing the European Union for its decision to unilaterally impose a 'carbon tax' on all carbon-intensive goods entering the region. The minister went as far as saying that the tax is morally incorrect and goes against the interest of developing countries. She is not alone in calling out the unreasonable levy. Union commerce minister Piyush Goyal said India would retaliate against unfair carbon taxes. As the date for imposition of carbon tax is coming closer—the tax comes into effect from January 1, 2026—the pushback against such a levy is getting stronger from the developing countries. Recently, the president of the African Development Bank warned that Africa might lose $25 billion every year on account of carbon tax. The chasm between developing and developed nations is widening when it comes to finding solutions to climate change challenges. Different blocs of nations want to protect their own interests in the ongoing talks on climate change.

Through imposition of the Cross Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) or carbon tax, the EU seeks to dissuade high carbon emitting industries by levying a tax on imports of cement, iron and steel, aluminium, fertilisers, electricity, and hydrogen from January 1, 2026. Later on, the scope of the tax is likely to expand to other industries such as shipping. The supposed intention behind the move is to stop carbon leakage, which happens when carbon-emitting industries shift production to countries with weaker environmental laws. However, not many agree with this stated intention as they believe the EU could have simply taxed European industries shifting production out of Europe. Instead, the EU decided to impose a carbon tax on all imports. Insinuations have been made that the EU is using carbon tax to protect its uncompetitive domestic industries from cheaper imports from the developing countries.

As the world deliberates over the issue of climate change and finding a solution to this problem in the COP28 summit at Dubai, the acrimony over imposition of carbon tax could only get bitter. Industries in several countries in Africa, Asia and South America largely depend on fossil fuels. The transition to renewables is still at a very initial stage in these countries. The funding promised to these countries for transition to renewables is slow, and they cannot afford to shift their industries to renewables in a year or two. Non-tariff barriers such as CBAM may disrupt trade talks at multilateral and bilateral levels, further expediting the de-globalisation of commerce and industries.

QUICK TAKE

MORAL PREACHING NOT JUDGES' JOB

THE Supreme Court on Friday took *suo motu* cognisance of a recent Calcutta High Court judgement that had advised adolescent girls to control their sexual urges. The apex court observed that judges should not preach morals in rulings. More than morality, this speaks to the deep-seated misogyny that accuses women of provocation in cases of sexual transgression. In August, the Chief Justice of India released a 30-page handbook that lists misogynistic language and gender stereotypes to be avoided in courts. It asks judges to avoid terms such as 'woman of loose morals', 'seductress' or even 'dutiful wife'. The handbook should be made mandatory reading for all judges.

Indian politics is not a winner-takes-all game. If the ruling party had shown some generosity instead of coming down so hard on Mahua Moitra, goodwill would have abounded

LIVE AND LET LIVE IS THE WAY OF INDIAN POLITICS

MAKARAND R PARANJAPE
Professor of English, Jawaharlal Nehru University

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

SOUMYADIP SINHA

IT was the English playwright, William Congreve, who gave the language its famous maxim, "Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned." There is also the general interdiction: Thou shalt not "kiss and tell". No matter how badly a relationship sours, to hit an ex below the belt makes one a cad, not an honourable person.

South of the Vindhyas, the revenge of a wronged lady has been memorialised in the tragic tale of Kannagi in the great Tamil epic *Silappadikaram* (c. 100 CE). She tore out a breast and cursed a city, bringing the ancient state of Poompuhar to an end. So feared is Kannagi that she is worshipped—or should I say appeased—as a goddess. As is Draupadi in Tamil Nadu.

Let us switch from mythology to Indian politics, which is no less imbued with larger-than-life heroes or redolent with fable and folklore. Consider the women leaders perceived to be wronged: Indira Gandhi, Gayatri Devi, J Jayalalithaa, to name only three. Indira Gandhi put Jaipur Maharani Gayatri Devi in jail. The Maharani was not only re-elected, but Indira Gandhi lost power in 1977. Of course, the rag-tag opposition that had united only to bring her down also collapsed. She returned as India's prime minister less than three years later in 1980, winning 353 seats in the Lok Sabha, more than BJP has ever won.

And Jayalalithaa or Amma as she was popularly known? Her political career was chequered: She did not just have a remarkable rise to power in 1991 after her mentor M G Ramachandran or MGR, supremo of the All India Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, died in 1987. After the 1996 state elections, she and her party were almost wiped out. She was also jailed by rival Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. But she returned to power with a thumping majority in 2001.

The lesson is two-fold. There are no full stops in Indian politics. More particularly, the Indian public does not take kindly to women *netas* being mistreated or insulted by the party in power.

Now to Mahua Moitra, who also compared herself with Draupadi, referring to the latter's *vastraharan* or disrobing after being expelled from parliament on Friday. The parliamentary ethics panel pronounced her guilty of "unethical conduct". Yes, she committed a mistake by sharing her Lok Sabha user ID and password with Dubai-based businessman Darshan Hiranandani. But will the National Informatics Centre care to enlighten the Indian public on how many other MPs routinely share their credentials too? What about the fact that without the OTP received on her phone, whose location could also be tracked, access was not possible?

Moitra's conduct was "found to be unbecoming as an MP" by the ethics panel. But are our other MPs paragons of virtue or spotless high-priests in our "temple of democracy"? She was accused of "cash for queries"—taking money for posing questions in the Indian parliament. Was this proven? No. From cash, the allegations turned to gifts. Even the number or extent of these were never proven. Nor a cause and effect, *quid pro quo* between receiving gifts and raising questions. Soon, the allegations and goal posts shifted to "national security", a buzzword which makes it easier to hang someone. But did sharing her credentials have an "irrepressible impact on national security" as the panel claimed? If so, this was not proven either.

Opposition MPs did not support her expulsion. The panel's verdict was not unanimous. Furthermore, she was not allowed to speak in her own defence. Her accusers were not cross-examined. How, then, can we believe that justice was served? What happened to the presumption of innocence—more commonly known as "innocent until proven guilty"—in common law? Did the panel forget that it is enshrined in Article 11 of the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights to which India was a major contributor and early signatory?

Moitra, freshly banished from parliament—with the entire opposition flanking her—called herself the victim of "a kangaroo court". With customary vitriol, she pronounced the doom of the BJP, quoting our national anthem and saying that "Punjab, Sind, Dravida, Utkal, Banga" are not with the BJP.

With less than six months left until the 2024 general elections, Moitra can be more dangerous to the BJP outside parliament than inside it. When she goes to her constituency and pours out her tale of being wronged by a vindictive central government and its crony capitalist leader, won't she get a sympathetic response? And if she is re-elected to parliament, won't it be sweet revenge indeed for her and her party?

The ruling party is admired by many for its "killer instinct". Those who believe that Hindus were defeated in the past because they forgave their enemies support the "mercilessness" of the present leadership. Going for the jugular, to them, is the preferred option. But is the "killer instinct" an appropriate political strategy against fellow parliamentarians or even opposition parties?

Perhaps, instead of coming down so hard on Moitra, this was the time to show some generosity and large-heartedness. This would have earned the BJP more goodwill and saved it from the charge of authoritarianism and misogyny.

Indian politics is not a zero-sum or winner-takes-all game. The Indian people are not only forgiving, but they are actually kind-hearted. They have, moreover, a deep sympathy for the underdog. Only the victim should also not come across as being arrogant, defiant, unrepentant or contemptuous.

Those who are crushed or banished often return. With renewed force and energy. Especially if they manage to learn valuable lessons from their defeat and humiliation. If they can rebrand, rejuvenate and resurrect themselves. This is the time for Moitra to reboot and reformat her image as a more mature political leader, a rallying point for the opposition, rather than a petulant or shrill harridan. Albeit no less feisty, courageous, and strong-willed.

As for the BJP, they must remember that live and let live, not live and let die, is the Indian way. It is also the way of Indian politics and of *Sanatana Dharma* itself.

(Views are personal)
(Tweets @MakrandParanspe)

SHIVARAM'S PATH TO EMOTIONAL STABILITY

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

THIS week I would like to retell the story of Trailanga (Telugu) Swami, who was said to be born in Andhra Pradesh in the 17th century and lived for over 280 years. This longevity is attributed to his extraordinary yogic powers. His story illuminates India's porous cultural unity across regions.

The swami is a household name in Bengal and a popular Bengali film was made on him in 1960. Sri Ramakrishna Paramahamsa met him in Varanasi in the 19th century and described him as "the walking Shiva of Kashi". Historian Sir Jadunath Sarkar wrote a book on Trailanga Swami's ascetic order called *A History of Dasnami Naga Sanyasis*. Trailanga Swami is still a legend in Kashi, where he is said to have spent 150 years. He died on December 26, 1887—a Monday, sacred to Shiva. He is said to have defied the laws of gravity and drunk poison without any ill-effects. But of special interest is his human journey from grief to emotional stability.

It is said that Narasimha and Vidyavati doted on their son Shivaram. Life was peaceful and pleasant in their little home deep in the Telugu country. One day, when Shivaram was barely five, his father took ill and died. Vidyavati bravely shouldered her responsibility alone. But little Shivaram went into deep shock. "I will never see Father again," he brooded. Not knowing how to express his feelings, he turned dull and dispirited. "He has stopped playing," thought Vidyavati sadly. "Let me try to divert him."

Shivaram was sent to stay with and study under a local learned man. The teacher and his wife were kind to him but Shivaram learnt his lessons unenthusiastically. Many years went by but Shivaram did not recover from his depression. He remained a bereaved little boy at heart. He resented it that other boys had their families. His sullen air meant that he had no friends at all.

Vidyavati took ill one day and Shivaram rushed to her bedside. He had flatly refused to get married and was now almost forty. He had stayed on in his *gurukul* as an assistant to his teacher. He was competent but withdrawn, seeing neither beauty nor humour in life. As a last resort, Vidyavati told him her secret. "Son," she said, "I will share my precious family legacy with you. My grandfather imparted it to me in secret. I will teach you the Kali mantra that he taught me to say. It has been the source of my strength."

Shivaram memorised it indifferently, not really believing her.

When she died a few weeks later, Shivaram went into even deeper depression. One day, out of an unknown compulsion, he took to reciting the Kali mantra for an hour a day. Unnoticed at first, the mantra took effect on Shivaram's mind and body. He fell in love with his breath. He went to sit by a cremation ground. In these stark surroundings he went into *teevra sadhana* or complete meditation.

EXPRESS

> Shivaram's father died when he was just a little boy, leaving him utterly sad, dull and dispirited well into adulthood. So, when his mother died when Shivaram was almost forty, he went deeper into the well of depression. But before bidding her son goodbye, she had taught him a family Kali mantra

One day, an elderly naked Naga *sadhu* happened to walk by. He stopped by Shivaram, who sensed his presence and opened his eyes. He made him a stiff *Namaste*, his elbows straining as he lifted his arms.

"You are not free yet, son," observed the *sadhu*. "If you were, your joints would be supple and your forehead would not be creased. Tell me about yourself."

Shivaram found his voice, hoarse with disuse, and briefly told the *sadhu* his story.

The *sadhu* looked at him keenly. "You are ready to take *sanyas*. I will initiate you, if you like, as a *Dasnami sadhu*."

"Please tell me about them, sir," said Shivaram politely, his interest stirred.

"Son, we go back to the 8th century, when Adi Shankara himself founded ten orders of ascetics. The ten orders are *Aranya, Ashrama, Bharati, Giri, Parvata, Puri, Sarasvati, Sagara, Tirtha,* and *Vana*. Each order is attached to one of four *mathas* or monasteries also established by Shankara, in the north, south, east and west of India. They are Jyoti or Joshimath, Sringeri Math, Goverdhana Math and Sharada Math."

"Sir, which order do you belong to?"

"I am Bhagirathananda Sarasvati. I am a *Naga sadhu*."

"Holy sir, please initiate me," said Shivaram, deeply impressed by the *sadhu's* serene face.

Shivaram took the sanyasi's vow to never hurt another living creature. He was pleased with his own new monastic name of Ganapati Sarasvati. As he walked north with the *sadhu*, who was headed to Prayagraj, Shivaram looked at the world wagging by. Men, women and children in all their complexity, trouble and joy, now began to seem like actors in a play at the temple during epic week. He no longer judged them for leading normal lives, bound to the unswerving wheel of karma. His life as a *sadhu* was his chosen normal; that was all. He felt a sudden, great tenderness welling up in his heart for all people. He wished them luck and hoped that they would be touched only lightly with sorrow.

Part of his learning with the *sadhu* was deep yoga. Already entranced by the play of his breathing, Shivaram learnt how to master it completely. At Prayagraj, Shivaram found a place on the bank where he could see the Triveni or confluence. It was his chosen spot to meditate on the Kali mantra and he thanked his mother every day for it. Several years went by like this. One day, although he wore only a loin cloth now, he could not bear to wear even that. He tore it off in disgust. When he went back unclad to the ashram that he stayed in, the old *sadhu* made no remark. Next day, however, he said, "You are ready now to leave for Kashi. That will be your home." Shivaram took leave of his kindly preceptor with a full heart. He went to the Triveni for a last look before he took the road to Kashi, invoking the Kali mantra to grace the next turn of the wheel. He was ready for anything now.

(shebaba09@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Congress clout

Ref: *Why India cannot do without Congress* (Dec 10). Shashi Tharoor is correct that the INDIA alliance can do nothing without the Congress. But Bharat can survive without the party. Though he is right in saying the performance of his party in the North Indian states cannot be underestimated, the party's stories of resurrection are very deceptive.
Dharmarajan A K, Thalassery

Vendetta victim

Ref: *TMC's Moitra expelled, gets Oppn support* (Dec 9). Mahua has become a victim of the BJP's vendetta politics. Why is the BJP always on the offensive against parliamentarians who question Gautam Adani's links with the PM? The opposition has always accused the BJP of stifling dissent. By expelling her, isn't Modi proving them right?
R Sivakumar, Chennai

Mahua's expulsion

One is left wondering if the ruling party scored a self goal in the expulsion of Mahua Moitra. Even as the opposition was in total disarray after losing three states, the Moitra episode has united it. Has the ruling party committed a faux paus? Only time will tell.
R Sriramprasad, email

Political reality

Ref: At ₹290 crore, highest-ever black-money haul in tax raids (Dec 10). The huge amount of money seized from the residences of a Congress Rajya Sabha MP shows the extent to which deceit and fraud have seeped into politics. Stringent punishment must be meted out to those indulging in such acts.
Dr Biju C Mathew, Thiruvananthapuram

Praja Bhavan

Ref: *Citizens flock to Praja Bhavan with grievances* (Dec 10). Revanth Reddy's idea is welcome as he can also take stock of the past actions of the BRS government on several issues. It is good that every petition is being given an ID number. But the CM also has to ensure that all the received petitions are resolved within a reasonable time. Praja darbars should not merely be for show.
Katuri Durga Prasad Rao, Hyderabad

Trade instability

Ref: *Maha uproar over onion as farmers, traders up in arms over ban on exports* (Dec 10). Normally, frequent government policy tweaks to set right trade imbalances affect business sentiments. But in the case of expected supply shortfalls, the government should protect consumers and farmers by curbing exports and stabilising prices. Dynamic price and supply monitoring is essential for trade stability.
Rajarao Kumar, Bengaluru

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Piyush Goyal @PiyushGoyal
Changing the name of the shop of corruption to the shop of love does not change the habit. For decades, Congress has looted the country and made it hollow.

Jairam Ramesh @Jairam_Ramesh
When Manmohan Singh was the PM, the average annual GDP growth rate was 8.1%. The same so far during the tenure of Modi is 5.4%. What is truly transformative?

Prashant Bhushan @pbhushanl
Why is BJP, Modi govt & its ECI opposing the count of VVPAT slips? VVPATs were installed on SC orders. When so many people doubt integrity of EVMs, why not count VVPATs?

■ Multiple observers point to a complete deadlock orchestrated mainly by the US, UK & EU ■ Draft text silent on finance

Consensus on 'global goal on adaptation' elusive

SV KRISHNA CHAITANYA @ Dubai

MORE than half of the world's population is highly vulnerable to extreme climate change impacts, yet the rich and mighty — historic emitters like the US, UK and European Union — are reportedly stalling and shying away from the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA), which is one among the most contentious issues along with Global Stocktake at the ongoing COP28 summit in Dubai.

While the countries are expected to finalise and adopt an ambitious GGA framework, its draft text that was out on Sunday morning suggest things are moving at a snail's pace and too much was left to chew in the last two days. The COP28 draws to close on December 12, but as things stand, currently there is high likelihood of negotiations getting extended.

GGA is a collective commitment under Article 7.1 of the Paris Agreement aimed at "enhancing (the world's) adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change." Proposed by the African Group of Negotiators in 2013 and established in 2015, the GGA is meant to serve as a unifying framework that can drive political action and finance for adaptation on the same scale as mitigation. This means setting specific, measurable targets and guidelines for global adaptation action as well as enhancing adaptation finance and support for developing countries.

Commitment Under Paris Agreement
More than half of the world's population is highly vulnerable to extreme climate change impacts
Rich nations like the US, UK and EU are reportedly stalling and shying away from the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA)
GGA is a collective commitment under Article 7.1 of Paris Agreement aimed at "enhancing (the world's) adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change"
Proposed by the African Group of Negotiators in 2013 and established in 2015, GGA is meant to serve as a unifying framework that can drive political action and finance for adaptation on the same scale as mitigation
India is keenly following developments around GGA since it is also highly vulnerable to climate impacts

However, the draft text is precariously quiet on finance. Multiple observers, who are closely tracking the close-door negotiations, told reporters that there is a complete deadlock orchestrated mainly by the trio of US, UK and EU.

Muhammad Adow, founder and director of Power Shift Africa, said, "Vulnerable countries are united on the GGA, it's the historic polluters who are trying to shift blame. The biggest culprit is the US and now the EU, as seen at the last negotiations. We need to send a clear message that we won't leave Dubai without GGA and it's a matter of life and death for the vulnerable countries who are willing to phase out on fossil fuels to secure the planet against the worst impact of climate change. But we can't lend them that lifeline of support? It's a travesty, we must call it out."

The text doesn't include any quantitative goal and doesn't include any timeline. "Adaptation gets about 21% of climate finance. In Paris, they committed to balancing adaptation and mitigation finance. Balancing means 50/50 and we are not anywhere close to getting that. In 2021 at COP26, they committed to doubling adaptation finance and that has also not been realised. So we have insufficient climate finance for adaptation and most are it is not in the form of grants. The United National Environment Programme Adaptation Gap report states that we need $387 billion for adaptation. And even if we doubled this as agreed in Glasgow, it doesn't bring us close to providing finance for developing countries. The US is effectively blocking any discussion on adaptation finance," Adow said.

Rixa Schwarz from German Watch says, "In the text of last week, we saw $400 billion annually by 2030 for adaptation measures, but that has now been removed."

India is also keenly following the developments around GGA since it is also highly vulnerable to climate impacts. India submitted its third national communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. In the communication, India said that with the projected climate change impacts, India's adaptation needs will intensify leading to a rise in costs.

The only notable portion of the GGA text was the Para 31, which requested developed countries to provide for developing countries, taking into account the needs of those that are particularly vulnerable, with long-term new and additional finance, technology and capacity-building, consistent with relevant provisions to implement urgent short-, medium- and long-term adaptation actions, and projects across different economic and social sectors.

Next INDIA bloc meeting to be held in Delhi on December 19

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

JAIRAM Ramesh, the Congress general secretary, on Sunday, announced on X that the fourth meeting of INDIA parties will be held at 3 pm in New Delhi on December 19.

Emphasising the theme of unity with 'Main Nahin, Hum' (We, Not Me), the opposition aims to present a collective front against the BJP-led government during the meeting. The opposition INDIA bloc intends to address key challenges, including the formulation of a "core positive agenda," negotiating seat-sharing arrangements, and organising a plan for joint rallies.

In response to the recent setbacks in assembly elections, particularly in Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, and Madhya Pradesh, the opposition parties aim to emphasise unity under the theme "Main Nahin, Hum" (We, Not Me) as a counter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The backdrop of the meeting is the Congress party's disappointing performance, while the BJP claims public endorsement of "Modi's guarantees" in the 2024 elections. The primary challenge facing the opposition now is to present an alternative positive agenda to counter the BJP in the upcoming general elections, according to a senior Congress leader. The meeting will discuss plans for seat sharing, joint election rallies, and the development of a common programme.

'Main Nahin, Hum'

Emphasising the theme of unity with 'Main Nahin, Hum' (We, Not Me), the opposition aims to present a collective front against the BJP-led government during the meeting. The opposition bloc intends to address key challenges, including the formulation of a "core positive agenda," negotiating seat-sharing arrangements, and organising a plan for joint rallies.

Despite the recent electoral setbacks, the leader emphasised that the issues raised during the campaign, such as caste census and the restoration of the old pension scheme, were not rejected by the voters. However, acknowledging the need for innovative approaches, the party aims to think out of the box to challenge the BJP in 2024. The likely slogan, "Main Nahin, Hum" (We, Not Me), reflects the opposition parties' collective effort to counter Modi. The INDIA bloc is expected to focus on issues such as caste census, legal guarantees for Minimum Support Price (MSP), and social security for workers. Addressing concerns raised during the Bharat Jodo Yatra, including economic inequality, social polarisation, political authoritarianism, rising prices, and inflation, will be part of the common agenda.

The opposition will draw attention to the 10 years under Manmohan Singh's leadership and assess whether the 10 years under PM Modi have positively impacted the common man's life. The Adani issue is also slated to be a prominent theme in the Lok Sabha poll campaign. The strategy meeting, scheduled to include leaders from 26 parties, aims to address key issues as the INDIA bloc prepares to challenge the BJP in the 2024 general elections. Mamata Banerjee, the TMC supremo and West Bengal chief minister, is expected to participate in the meeting along with other senior leaders.

Moitra can and must move SC for relief: Legal experts

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

TRINAMOOL Congress (TMC) leader Mahua Moitra, who was expelled from the Lok Sabha on Friday, could and should knock the doors of the Supreme Court for relief, say legal experts.

Former additional solicitor general (ASG) and senior advocate K C Kaushik, while talking to this newspaper, said that Moitra should approach the court for relief under Article 32 of the Constitution.

Article 32 states that an individual has the right to approach the Supreme Court seeking enforcement of his or her fundamental rights recognised by the Constitution. "It means that Moitra, being aggrieved, can directly approach the SC for the remedy instead of making an appeal," Kaushik said.

Retired Delhi High Court judge Justice R S Sodhi echoed the same view. He said that Moitra in her petition may plead to the Supreme Court that under Article 32, it acts as a guarantor and defender of fundamental rights. Furthermore, the power to issue writs falls under SC's judicial jurisdiction.

"For every action, there is always a remedy available. Moitra should tell and plead to the apex court that the due and correct procedure was not followed," he said.

"She can say that she was not given enough opportunity or not allowed to place her things or arguments or facts into record, as a result of which she was expelled from the Lok Sabha. She can say that the ethics committee order is unfair, unjust and arbitrary," Justice Sodhi said.

For every action, there is always a remedy available. Moitra should tell and plead to the apex court that the due and correct procedure was not followed
RS Sodhi, Retd Delhi High Court judge

Retired Allahabad HC judge Justice S R Singh also said that Moitra can knock SC's doors by stating that the ethics committee had done a severe illegality, unconstitutionality or a denial of natural justice to her during its investigation against her.

"She can file an appeal against the order. She can say that there is a complete violation of natural justice and principles of fair hearing," Justice Singh said.

Design and maintain highways with gender-sensitive infra: House panel

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

A PANEL of parliamentarians has recommended a slew of measures including night police patrolling and dedicated bus or taxi service for the safety of women and children travelling in public transport.

The 31-member standing committee on transport, tourism and culture has also urged the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) to design and maintain highways with gender-sensitive infrastructure such as safe pedestrian crossings and waiting areas for women.

In its 361st report comprising recommendations tabled in both Houses of Parliament on Friday, the panel stated that the ministry should encourage community policing initiatives, where local residents and volunteers work together with law enforcement agencies to ensure safety of women travellers.

"In order to ensure the safety of women, police patrols must be increased on highways, especially during night hours. It must be ensured that female police officers are part of these patrols to make women travellers feel more secure. The ministry should promote and support women-centric transport services such as women-only buses or taxi services, especially during night-time hours," read the report.

THE RECOMMENDATIONS
Safe pedestrian crossings
Waiting areas for women
Ensure presence of female police officers in the night patrols
Encourage community policing initiatives, where local residents work with law enforcement agencies
INCREASE POLICE PATROLS ON HIGHWAYS AT NIGHT HOURS
Promote women-centric transport services such as women-only buses or taxi services, especially at night
Install emergency call boxes to assist all motorists in case of an urgent situation or accident
Take steps to mitigate accidents caused due to movement of stray animals on highways

In its previous report, the committee noted that "a lot needs to be done" to improve the state of safety of women on public road transport including installation of proper signages, availability of mobile phone networks, street lights and highway patrolling.

The ministry had responded that its scheme 'Development, customisation, deployment and management of state-wise vehicle-tracking platform' includes setting up of monitoring centres to implement the vehicle-tracking system and ensure safe commute to women and children in public passenger transport vehicles. "This monitoring is also applicable to public service vehicles operating on national highways," the ministry's response stated. The reply is part of the latest report tabled in the House.

Referring to the response of MoRTH, the committee observed that the funds should be allocated to each state and UTs under the scheme.

It has also asked the ministry to consider integrating emergency communication devices such as emergency call boxes for the safety and assistance of all motorists in case of any urgent situation or accident.

'Junk food ads for kids must be regulated'

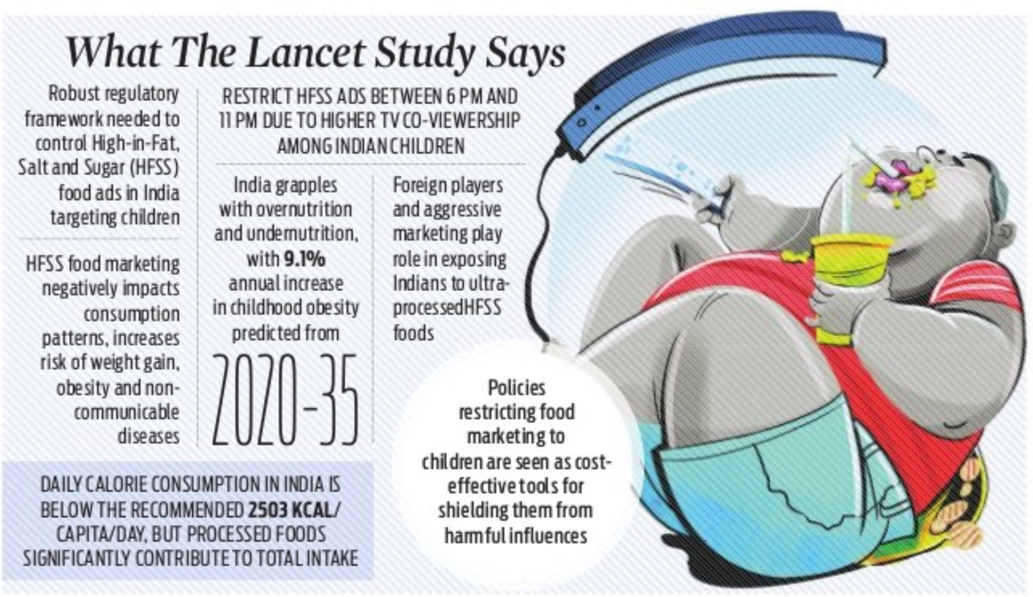
KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

EXPOSURE to high-in-fat, salt, and sugar (HFSS) food advertisements in India underscores the necessity for a robust regulatory framework to shield children from consumables portrayed as fun, relaxed, and exciting, according to a study in The Lancet.

The study emphasises the need to define 'junk food' as the marketing of HFSS foods negatively impacts consumption patterns, particularly among young children, leading to increased lifetime risks of weight gain, overweight, obesity, and non-communicable diseases.

Published in The Lancet Regional Health-Southeast Asia, the study notes a higher prominence of single TV households in India, with TV co-viewership predominantly occurring between 6 pm and 11 pm. "Restricting HFSS advertisements from being displayed during this period may lead to a reduction in exposure among children," the study suggests.

In India, a dual burden exists with over nutrition — manifested as obesity or overweight — and undernutrition. Quoting the World Obesity Atlas 2023, which predicts an annual increase in the obesity rate among children to be 9.1 per cent between 2020 and 2035, the study says this could be attributed to complex interactions among societal, environmental, food industry and individual factors.


What The Lancet Study Says
Robust regulatory framework needed to control High-in-Fat, Salt and Sugar (HFSS) food ads in India targeting children
HFSS food marketing negatively impacts consumption patterns, increases risk of weight gain, obesity and non-communicable diseases
RESTRICT HFSS ADS BETWEEN 6 PM AND 11 PM DUE TO HIGHER TV CO-VIEWERSHIP AMONG INDIAN CHILDREN
India grapples with overnutrition and undernutrition, with 9.1% annual increase in childhood obesity predicted from 2020-35
Foreign players and aggressive marketing play role in exposing Indians to ultra-processed HFSS foods
DAILY CALORIE CONSUMPTION IN INDIA IS BELOW THE RECOMMENDED 2503 KCAL/CAPITA/DAY, BUT PROCESSED FOODS SIGNIFICANTLY CONTRIBUTE TO TOTAL INTAKE
Policies restricting food marketing to children are seen as cost-effective tools for shielding them from harmful influences

The daily average calorie consumption in India falls below the recommended 2503 kcal/capita/day across all groups, irrespective of income, regions, and sectors — both rural and urban — except for the wealthiest 5 per cent of the population.

"It is worth noting that an average Indian household derives more calories from processed foods than fruits, highlighting their significant contribution to total calorie intake. Due to the economic upsurge, the role of various foreign players in the food industry and aggressive marketing, Indians have been increasingly exposed to ultra-processed, high sugar, salt, and fat foods (HFSS)," the study reveals.

Authors from various institutions, highlight that policies restricting food marketing to children are the most cost-effective tools to protect children from harmful marketing encouraging unhealthy diets in the long term.

Upon reviewing regulations in India to protect children from harmful marketing of HFSS food, the authors found 13 policies — nine mandatory and four self-regulatory — that are relevant to advertising in the country.

However, the authors said, out of the nine mandatory policies, Guidelines for Prevention of Misleading Advertisements and Endorsements for Misleading Advertisements, 2022, is the only policy restricting HFSS food advertisements to children across all media.

POWER GAMES

SHAHID FARIDI
The writer is Resident Editor TNIE, New Delhi.
Email: shahid@newindianexpress.com

Poll Preparation

MODI'S 'MANN KI BAAT' TO GO WEEKLY

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has decided to virtually address the beneficiaries of his government's numerous schemes every Saturday. BJP president J P Nadda has informed party MPs, MLAs, state unit presidents and the party's chief ministers that the Prime Minister will engage with the beneficiaries of Central government's schemes and "share his Mann Ki Baat (speak his mind) with them" every week on Saturdays as part of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra programme. Under this programme, over 3,000 publicity-cum-enrolment vans are going around in the country. These video vans are informing people about the schemes of the Union government and inviting them to enroll for the benefits. The target is to cover 2.70 lakh villages by the middle of January 2023. BJP leaders have been instructed to put up hoardings and posters to spread awareness about the programme and gather maximum number of people when the Yatra reaches their area. BJP leaders have also been asked to enroll people as Viksit Bharat ambassadors. Every Saturday, the Prime Minister will address the people gathered at the 3,000 Viksit Bharat video vans in different parts of the country. The number of people he will address every Saturday through the 3,000 vans will be in lakhs. Party leaders said over a crore people have already been contacted through these Viksit Bharat vans in the first three weeks of the programme. Sources said the focus of the programme is more on the rural areas where the BJP is relatively weak.

Target 2024

NAMO APP TO BE PIVOTAL IN PM'S HAT-TRICK BID

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has decided to make the Namo App a one-stop-shop for all the policies, programmes, beneficiary data and campaign material for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. The app will play a pivotal role in the Prime Minister's bid to score a hat-trick in 2024 elections. Sources said BJP's Rajya Sabha MP Anil Jain, who has earlier served as the party's national general secretary, has been asked to reach out to the RSS leadership in states and at the Centre to request it to direct the cadres to use the app. NaMo App national convenor Kuljeet Singh Chahal is also coordinating with Jain and the RSS leadership for wider use of the app. Modi has himself appealed to the BJP cadres, beneficiaries of Central government schemes and the Viksit Bharat ambassadors to use the app for information and feedback. Sources said the first phase of the plan is to get millions of downloads of the app for a two-way communication between the Prime Minister and BJP foot soldiers to prepare the latter for elections. This will be followed by loading the app with talking points and other campaign material for the 2024 election campaign. The party has launched many schemes to promote the app. In one scheme, a party member who gets 5,100 people to download the app gets a chance to meet the Prime Minister.

MORPHED PHOTO

The UP Police has registered an FIR against a local leader in this district for allegedly morphing Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's face out of a picture and posting it on social media.

08 KILLED IN SUV- TRUCK ACCIDENT IN UP'S BAREILLY

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	42	27	Mumbai	35	29
Bhopal	43	28	Panaji	32	28
Jaipur	41	30	Patna	41	27
Amritsar	40	23	Lucknow	42	27
Chennai	39	30	Port Blair	34	28
Kolkata	36	26	Imphal	23	18
Srinagar	18	08	Chandigarh	42	23

Suspense over MP CM name likely to end this evening

ANURAAG SINGH @ Bhopal

THE stage is all set for the BJP legislature party to hold a meeting in Bhopal on Monday, where 163 newly elected MLAs will elect the next Madhya Pradesh CM in the presence of the three central observers.

While the possibility of incumbent CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan being asked to continue in the position, at least till the Lok Sabha polls cannot be ruled out, there are several contenders in the race.

They include Union minister Jyotiraditya Scindia and former Union minister Prahlad Singh Patel (both OBC politicians like Chouhan), ex-Union minister and BJP's state poll management committee chief Narendra Singh Tomar and state BJP president VD Sharma and state ministers Gopal Bhargava and Rajendra Shukla (all from the upper caste).

The dark horses include national general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya (a Vaishya) and Sumer Singh Solanki (first time tribal MP). In case the party opts for a woman for the post, two-time former MP and first time MLA Riti Pathak may be named as CM.

However, with the BJP already opting for a tribal leader as the CM in Chhattisgarh, and the last three CMs in MP being OBCs (where they constitute half of the state's population), including Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Late Babulal Gaur and Uma Bharti, the possibility of an OBC face being named as CM seems strong.

If Chouhan is not asked to continue and the party opts for a fresh OBC face, Prahlad Singh Patel and Jyotiraditya Scindia could be the frontrunners.

While Patel comes from the powerful Lodhi caste, Scindia hails from Kurmi caste. Patel's prospects may be boosted by the fact that the Lodhi caste has a sizeable voter base in 29 Lok Sabha seats of MP and in UP.

Former UP CM late Kalyan Singh and ex-MP CM Uma Bharti hailed from the same caste.

OBC face as CM?

With the BJP already opting for a tribal leader as the CM in Chhattisgarh, and the last three CMs in MP being OBCs (where they constitute half of the state's population), including Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Uma Bharti, the possibility of an OBC face being named as CM seems strong

Road to Raipur: Sai's journey from unopposed sarpanch to hot seat

From Paikra-Kanwar tribal community, the soft-spoken tribal leader has close RSS links

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

NEWLY-elected MLA from Kunkuri legislative assembly in Jashpur district Vishnu Deo Sai (59) is a composed, soft-spoken tribal leader.

Union home minister Amit Shah, while seeking support from the masses in a rally during the poll campaign, had dropped a hint of 'some' big plans for Sai, who is closely associated with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, if the BJP won.

A resident of Bagiya village, Sai is a farmer by occupation and represents the 'Paikra-Kanwar' tribal community. Tribals constitute around 31 percent of the state's population.

He began his political career as unopposed sarpanch of Bagiya gram panchayat in 1990 and was later elected as an MLA at the age of 26 years from Jashpur's Tapkara Assembly constituency which he represented from 1990 to 1998.

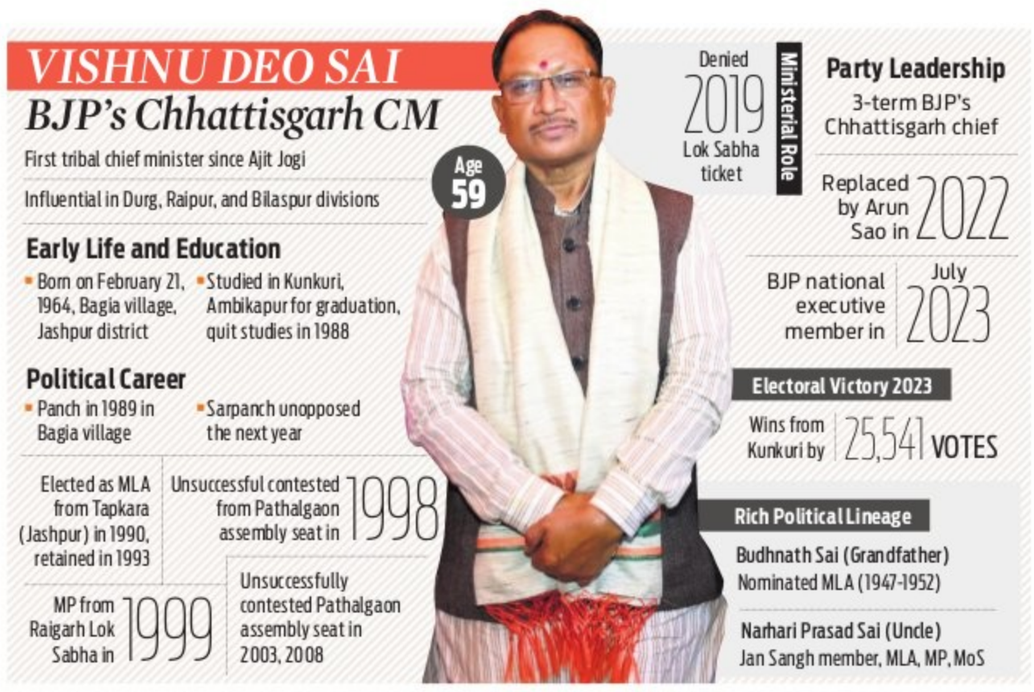
Sai's late grandfather Budhnath Sai was a nominated legislator from 1947-52 and the elder brother of his father Narahari Sai became a two-time MLA in undivided MP House. Another close relative, Kedarnath Sai, was also an MLA.

He is the second tribal chief minister in Chhattisgarh after Ajit Jogi, who represented the Congress party. He remained the senior most state BJP leaders among the frontrunners for the top post and the party finally reposed its trust in him.

Besides his long political career, the tribal leader emerged ahead of other contenders for the CM's post for two apparent reasons—the state's significant tribal population and the overwhelming support the BJP got from them in the 2023 polls as the party won 17 out of the 29 reserved ST seats.

Sai is perceived as a 'non-controversial' BJP leader who first notched a parliamentary win from the Raigarh Lok Sabha seat in 1999. He went on to represent the constituency four times in a row — 1999, 2004, 2009 and 2014.

In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, he was among the 10 sitting BJP MPs who were denied tickets. He served as the Union minister of state for steel and mining, labour and employment in the Narendra Modi government after being elected to Parliament from Raigarh in 2014. Sai was twice elected as the state BJP president, first in 2006 and later in 2020.


VISHNU DEO SAI
BJP's Chhattisgarh CM
First tribal chief minister since Ajit Jogi
Influential in Durg, Raipur, and Bilaspur divisions
Age 59
Early Life and Education
Born on February 21, 1964, Bagia village, Jashpur district
Studied in Kunkuri, Ambikapur for graduation, quit studies in 1988
Political Career
Panch in 1989 in Bagia village
Sarpanch unopposed the next year
Elected as MLA from Tapkara (Jashpur) in 1990, retained in 1993
Unsuccessful contested from Pathalgaon assembly seat in 1998
MP from Raigarh Lok Sabha in 1999
Unsuccessfully contested Pathalgaon assembly seat in 2003, 2008
Denied Ministerial Role 2019 Lok Sabha ticket
Party Leadership
3-term BJP's Chhattisgarh chief
Replaced by Arun Sao in 2022
BJP national executive member in July 2023
Electoral Victory 2023
Wins from Kunkuri by 25,541 VOTES
Rich Political Lineage
Budhnath Sai (Grandfather)
Nominated MLA (1947-1952)
Narhari Prasad Sai (Uncle)
Jan Sangh member, MLA, MP, MoS

SRINAGAR DIARY

FAYAZ WANI
Our correspondent in Jammu and Kashmir
fayazwani123@gmail.com

No fuel for riders without helmets in Valley

In a first, the administration in south Kashmir's Anantnag district in Jammu and Kashmir has ordered a ban on the sale of fuel to two-wheeler riders without helmets. District Magistrate Anantnag in an order cited increase in road accidents involving two-wheeler riders. The petrol pump owners and operators have been directed by the administration not to sell petrol to bikers and two-wheeler riders arriving at the pumps without wearing a helmet. The petrol pump and filling station owners have also been asked to install CCTV cameras, which should clearly show the footage of the buyers.

Crackdown against social media misuse

Police has launched a crackdown against the misuse of social media in Kashmir and started legal proceedings against nine persons. The crackdown followed warnings by District Magistrates and police officers of legal proceedings against individuals for spreading rumors, anti-national sentiments, and other content that could disrupt the peaceful environment through their posts on social networking platforms. Police has initiated legal proceedings against three persons in south Kashmir's Anantnag district for sharing videos containing hate-filled and inflammatory statements.

Migratory birds come back to Kashmir

Migratory birds from various European, Western and central Asian countries arrive in Kashmir during the winter months and make the Valley their temporary abode. Among the migratory birds that visit the valley every year are Tufted Duck, Gudwal, Brahminy Duck, Gargantuan, Greylag Goose, Mallard, Common Merganser, Northern Pintail, Ferruginous Pochard, Red Crested Pochard, Ruddy Shelduck, Northern Shoveler, Common Teal and Eurasian Wagtail. According to officials, every year, 5-12 lakh migratory birds are seen in Kashmir wetlands. The water bodies become colorful with these visiting birds and are a sight for tourists.

WEST BENGAL

Govt seeks FCI help over poor paddy collection

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kolkata

MAMATA Banerjee's government has written to the Union government's Food Corporation of India (FCI), requesting to supply over 1.9 lakh tonnes of rice in February, days before the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, to run the cheap grain scheme in the state.

The communication with the Centre appears to be significant as the state government is worried about the poor progress of procurement of paddy which might affect the supply of cheap grain to beneficiaries before the Lok Sabha polls.

The progress of paddy procurement started on November 1 after the harvesting of the kharif (monsoon) season that targeted to collect overall 70 lakh tonnes of them.

"The state has procured only 3.38 lakh paddy so far. The goal is to cover 80 per cent of the target by February next year. In 2022, the state government had procured more than 4.50 lakh tonnes by the same period. So there are enough reasons to be worried for the state administration," said an official at Nabanna, the state secretariat.

Cong distances itself from 'money-bag' J'khand MP, asks for his clarification

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

MAKING it clear that the Congress has nothing to do with the huge cash recovered allegedly from the premises of its MP Dheeraj Sahu, Jharkhand Congress in-charge Avinash Pandey on Sunday said a clarification has been sought from Sahu in connection with the recovery and clarified that it a private matter of the MP and the party has nothing to do with it.

Notable, after continuous search for the fifth consecutive day, more than ₹300 crores in cash have been recovered allegedly from the sites linked to Sahu in Jharkhand and Odisha and is said to be the highest-ever money haul by the Income Tax in a single operation.

According to I-T sources, Rs 230 crores in cash were recovered alone from nine almirahs kept at the Bolangir office of Baldeo Sahu & Group of Companies in Odisha while the rest of the amount was seized from other locations in Odisha and Jharkhand. The agency expects more recovery, as at least seven lockers and three rooms are yet to be searched.

"A clarification has been sought from the MP asking him to make an official statement on how come such a huge amount of cash was acquired by him," the Congress leader said.

He, however, said that no official confirmation has come from the I-T department over the recovery of cash, but the way allegations are being made linking the party is unfortunate.

Pandey said Sahu's family was in business for more than 100 years and he is just a part of the family business.

Meanwhile, till Sunday afternoon, of the 176 bags recovered by I-T department, 140 have been counted. I-T sleuths are said to have recovered three bags containing jewellery and some important documents.

Sahu, a resident of Lohardaga in Jharkhand, is a senior Congress leader and serving as a Rajya Sabha MP for the third time.

Nitish seeks special category status for Bihar

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

BIHAR chief minister Nitish Kumar on Sunday demanded special category status (SCS) to the state during the 26th meeting of the Eastern Zonal Council meeting chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah in the state capital.

The meeting, however, was not attended by West Bengal chief ministers Mamata Banerjee, Odisha chief minister Naveen Patnaik and Jharkhand chief minister Hemant Soren. Nitish, however, met Shah after a lot of political acrimony between them ever since JD (U) supremo had snapped ties with BJP to form a new government with the grand alliance in August last year.

The demand for special category status has been revived afresh after release of the caste and economic survey data recently. Last month, the state cabinet had passed a resolution demanding a grant of special category status for the state. He claims that it will require five years to complete various schemes but the state government would be able to do it in a very short time if it was accorded special status.

Valley anxious as SC to pronounce verdict on Art 370 abrogation today

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

AS the Supreme Court is all set to pronounce its verdict on Monday on pleas challenging the reading down of Article 370 by the Centre in 2019, a feeling of anxiety prevails in the Valley as the much-awaited judgment will set the course for the future in the sensitive region.

"The hope with which we had gone to the Apex Court, we have the same hope today...we hope justice will be delivered," former J&K CM and National Conference vice-president Omar Abdullah said and added that his party would continue to fight for the restoration of special status through peaceful means within the constitution.

The five-judge Constitution bench headed by CJI D Y Chandrachud had reserved its judgment on September 5 after hearing 23 pleas challenging the dilution of Article 370.

Former J&K CM and PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti pointed out that the court had previously maintained that Article 370 could only be scrapped based on the recommendations of the Constituent Assembly of J&K. "The SC verdict is not solely about the Article but a pivotal moment determining the future of India's identity," she said.

Ravinder Raina, the J&K BJP president, said his party will accept and respect the SC verdict. Like politicians, the residents are too anxious. "It is a D-Day tomorrow. We hope for justice," said a retired teacher, Abdul Gaffar.

However, a businessman Javed Ahmed does not think that the special status will be restored after four years. Police, meanwhile, have upped vigil and are monitoring the social media platforms.

Judgment reserved

The five-judge Constitution bench had reserved its judgment on September 5 after hearing 23 pleas challenging the dilution of Article 370. PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti said the court maintained that Article 370 could be scrapped based on the recommendations of Constituent Assembly of J&K

1st giraffe born in Guwahati Zoo named 'Parijat'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Guwahati

THE first giraffe born in Assam has finally got a name. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma christened the calf as "Parijat". It was born at the Assam State Zoo-cum-Botanical Garden, widely known as Guwahati Zoo, mid-November.

The calf is the offspring of Vijay and Vijaya. Vijay was brought from Mysore in 2019 and Vijaya from Patna in 2022 under an animal exchange programme.

Earlier, Sarma had reached out to people through X, formerly Twitter, urging them to suggest a name for the calf. Social media users wasted no time. They suggested names, including "Himanta".

Sarma, who visited the zoo on Saturday and was seen feeding milk to the giraffe calf, told journalists people suggested some 350 names.

"After shortlisting some, followed by a lucky draw, we accepted the name Parijat. We thank one Piya Kalita, whom I do not know, for suggesting this name," Sarma said.

He said the mother had rejected the calf right after birth and behaved like a stranger, prompting the forest department to immediately contact a Mumbai-based expert, Tushar Kulkarni, and take his help. The calf grew up under the care of Kulkarni and zoo staff.

"We are feeding the calf 7.5 litres of milk every day. The amount of milk will increase slowly," the CM said.

He said the zoo on Saturday released a kangaroo, a wallaby and two orangutans for public viewing. They grew up under the zoo's care. The orangutans were rescued in southern Assam's Barak Valley when some people were smuggling them.

"We have submitted a proposal involving ₹350 crore to the finance department for the upgradation of the Guwahati Zoo. If we get the funds, we can make it one of the best zoos in the country," Sarma said.

He said as more animals would be arriving, the zoo would have to build more enclosures. He said most of the existing enclosures waned out with time. "We want to build a children's park so kids can spend quality time in the zoo. We also want to build a veterinary hospital, animal rescue centre etc. We have a big plan. Let's see how much we can do," the CM said.

He disclosed that the state government would soon float tenders for the construction of two open zoos – one in Dibrugarh and another in Silchar. It will take four to five years for them to come up, he added.

Mother rejected calf

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After electrocution of 5 tuskers, solar fencing in Palamu Tiger Reserve soon

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

AFTER seven wild tuskers were killed last month due to electrocution once they came in contact with the sagged high-tension wires in Jamshedpur, all four soft release centers being set up in Palamu Tiger Reserve (PTR) will be guarded by solar fencing.

According to officials, a system is being developed through which the elephants will receive a very mild shock if they get into contact with it, which will further help in keeping them away from chain link fencing set up around the soft release centers.

Notably, Jharkhand forest officials have chalked out plans to set up soft release centers in order to ensure enough food for tigers, which will help in increasing their numbers in the Palamu Tiger Reserve. The soft release centers are those where animals are placed in pre-release cages located close to the location where they will be released.

Since, PTR is also a permanent habitat of nearly 300 wild tuskers, soft release centers are being equipped with solar fencing, which will help in keeping the wild tuskers away from the chain link fencing, thus protecting them from getting damaged.

"Solar fencing is a solar powered protective system for chain link fencing that have two wires running outside it," said the PTR Deputy Director South Division Kumar Ashish. If any living being comes in contact with these wires, they will receive a mild electric shock and hence, help in keeping them away from it, he added.

According to Ashish, PTR being habitat of nearly 300 wild tuskers, there will always be a possibility of the chain link fencing put around the soft release camps, getting damaged as the wild tuskers keep on roaming around in groups from one place to another in PTR. Therefore, the decision was taken to give these soft release centers a protective shield from the wild tuskers, he said.

"The mild shock generated from the solar panels installed at different locations will not cause any damaged to the lives of elephants," said the Deputy Director.

What is solar fencing?

PTR Deputy Director South Division Kumar Ashish explains solar fencing as a solar powered protective system for chain link fencing that have two wires running outside it. If any living being comes in contact with these wires, they will receive a mild electric shock which will help in keeping them away from the wires.

THREE

killed and 1 wounded in shooting in an apartment building in the US city of Atlanta, police said

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	29	16	SNY	Los Angeles	26	17	LC
Colombo	29	24	LC	Melbourne	25	12	HR
Dhaka	32	27	SNY	Moscow	21	8	HR
Dubai	39	31	SNY	New York	26	16	LC
Houston	31	23	SNY	Singapore	32	27	SNY
Istanbul	29	17	SNY	Toronto	19	11	LC
London	24	13	LC	Washington	27	14	SNY

Saudi could take majority control of Heathrow airport

LONDON

SAUDI Arabia is set to buy a 10% stake in London's Heathrow airport from Spanish infrastructure giant Ferrovial at an eye-watering price and could take effective majority control of London's Heathrow airport with other investors considering selling their stakes at the given price.

As per reports, the Saudi Public Investment Fund (PIF) along with French private equity group Ardian, in which Saudi Arabia is an investor agreed to buy a 25% stake held by Spain's Ferrovial SE. The $3 billion deal was about 70% above Morgan Stanley's estimated valuation, Bloomberg reported. Other investment funds could follow and sell their stake to PIF.

As per the terms of the airport's shareholder agreement, other investors can sell their stakes at the same price, which gives Heathrow a valuation of £9.5 billion. "At that price, we are a seller," one of the remaining investors told the Sunday Times. Heathrow, which is one of the world's busiest airports, is owned by the consortium FGP Topco Limited, which going forward is set to be led by Qatar Investment Authority, with an existing 20% stake.

Ardian will be the second biggest player, while Riyahd's Public Investment Fund (PIF) will join China Investment Corporation at ten percent, around the level held by other members of the consortium.

Heathrow airport is the UK's largest and one of the busiest in the world

Last week, the Conservative administration headed by Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said it was "minded" to review the proposed sale of the Telegraph Media Group to an Abu Dhabi-backed investment fund on public interest grounds.

Announcing Ferrovial's exit, the head of its airport business, Luke Bugeja, said in a statement: "Over the last 17 years, we have been contributing to Heathrow's transformation, together with our fellow shareholders, achieving some excellent milestones throughout our long-term role as an investor."

Qatar says truce window closing

Relentless Israeli bombardment of Gaza narrowing chances of reaching a fresh ceasefire deal, warns Qatar

DOHA

MEDIATION efforts are continuing to secure a new Gaza ceasefire despite ongoing Israeli bombardment that is "narrowing the window" for a successful outcome, Qatar's prime minister said Sunday.

"Our efforts as the state of Qatar along with our partners are continuing. We are not going to give up," Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani told the Doha Forum more than two months into the Israel-Hamas war.

Qatar was a key mediator in negotiations that resulted in a seven-day truce, which saw scores of Israeli hostages exchanged for Palestinian prisoners and humanitarian aid, until it ended at the start of the month.

Israel declared war on Hamas after the militant group killed 1,200 people and took 240 hostages, according to Israeli figures, in an unprecedented attack on October 7.

The Israeli offensive has killed at least 17,700 people in Gaza, many of them women and children, according to the Hamas-run health ministry.

"We are going to continue, we are committed to have hostages released, but we are also committed to stop the war," the Qatari premier said.

But, he added, "we are not seeing the same willingness from both parties" and "the continuation of the bombardment is just narrowing this window for us".

Addressing the Doha Forum earlier, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said the Security Council was "paralysed by geostrategic divisions" that were undermining solutions to the conflict. The body's "authority and credibility were severely undermined" by its delayed response to the war, he said two days after a US veto prevented a resolution calling for a Gaza ceasefire. "I reiterated my appeal for a humanitarian ceasefire to be declared," he told the forum. "Regrettably, the Security Council failed to do it," he added. "I can promise, I will not give up." Guterres had convened an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council after two months of fighting in Gaza. *AFP*

Buildings destroyed in the Israeli bombardment of Al Zawayda in central Gaza Strip on Sunday | AP

Prez of top US university quits in anti-Semitism row

The president of an Ivy League university stepped down Saturday in the wake of a firestorm of criticism after a congressional hearing on the rise of anti-Semitism on US campuses. University of Pennsylvania President Elizabeth Magill "voluntarily tendered her resignation," the chair of the university's board of trustees Scott Bok announced. Bok also stepped down himself, a university spokesman confirmed to AFP. Magill was among three presidents of elite universities who faced withering criticism following their testimony Tuesday during a congressional hearing on campus anti-Semitism

French warship downs drones over Red Sea

PARIS

A French frigate shot down two drones in the Red Sea that were heading towards it from the coast of Yemen, the French military said.

The incident came after Yemen's Iran-backed Huthi rebels on Saturday threatened to attack any vessels heading to Israeli ports unless food and medicine were allowed into the besieged Gaza Strip.

"The interception and destruction of these two identified threats" were carried out late Saturday by the frigate Languedoc, which operates in the Red Sea, the general staff said in a press release. The interceptions happened at 2030 GMT and 2230 GMT, it added, and were 110 km from the Yemeni coast and the port of Hudaydah, which is under rebel control.

The drones "were flying directly towards the vessel", the general staff said.

The frigate used surface-to-air missiles of the Aster 15 type, designed for defence against short to medium-range threats, a military source told AFP, asking not to be named.

The French navy had not used surface-to-air missiles in self-defence before.

The latest Huthi warning came amid heightened tensions in the Red Sea and surrounding waters following a series of maritime attacks by Huthi rebels since the start of the Israel-Hamas war on October 7. In a statement posted on social media, the Huthis said they "will prevent the passage of ships heading to the Zionist entity" if humanitarian aid is not allowed into Hamas-ruled Gaza.

The Huthis have recently attacked ships they claim have direct links to Israel, but their latest threat expands the scope of their targets. Hamas welcomed the Huthi stance, calling it "bold and courageous". An American destroyer shot down three drones last week while providing assistance to commercial ships in the Red Sea targeted by attacks from Yemen, according to Washington, which denounced "a direct threat" to maritime security. *AFP*

Pak Army chief Munir leaves for Washington

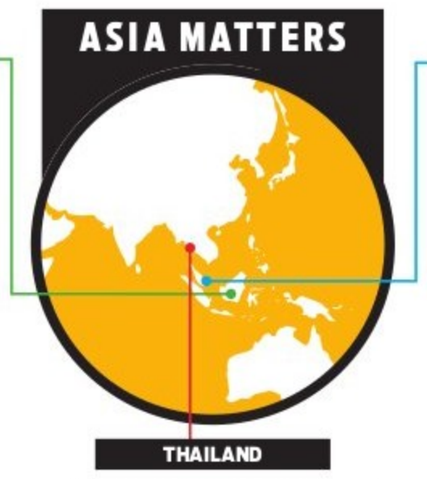
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Army chief General Asim Munir on Sunday left for Washington on his first official trip to the United States amidst severe economic, political and security challenges faced by his cash-strapped country.

During his visit to the US, Gen Munir is scheduled to meet the senior military and other government officials of USA, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the military's media affairs wing, said in a statement.

His visit comes as Pakistan slowly plods its way towards the general elections slated to take place on February 8 after a delay due to various legal issues. However, there is still uncertainty if the polls will be held on time due to security issues and the severe winter.

ASIA MATTERS



INDONESIA

300 ROHINGYAS STRANDED ON ACEH BEACH

More than 300 Rohingya refugees, mostly women and children, were stranded on the coast of western Indonesia Sunday after being adrift at sea for weeks, the latest in the biggest wave of arrivals since 2015. A group of 180 refugees from the persecuted Myanmar minority arrived by boat at 3.00 am local time on a beach in the Pidie regency of Aceh province. Another boat carrying 135 refugees landed in neighbouring Aceh Besar regency hours later. The mostly Muslim Rohingya were the target of a 2017 crackdown by Myanmar's military that is the subject of a UN genocide probe

HOT COFFEE SPILLED ON AIR PASSENGER

A leading airline in the country has apologised after hot coffee was spilled on a passenger, causing severe burns. The apology came after the passenger filed a complaint saying the flight attendant failed to give him first aid in a professional manner or ensure due care from the airline, The Bangkok Post reported

SINGAPORE

GOVT PUSHES FOR DIPLOMACY, RULE OF LAW

Singapore is deeply committed to fostering a world where the rule of law is upheld and where dialogue and negotiation are the chosen pathways to resolving conflicts and disputes, the country's Indian-origin President Tharman Shanmugaratnam has said. The prosperous city-state also supports stronger international cooperation to prevent crises from occurring, and to be prepared in advance for any shocks to the system when they do occur, the president on Saturday told 460 newly minted officers of the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF)

A Chinese Coast Guard ship sails near a Philippine vessel (L) that was part of a convoy of civilian boats in the disputed South China Sea | PTI

Philippines says China used water cannons at its vessels for a second day

MANILA

THE Chinese coast guard targeted Philippine vessels with water cannon blasts on Sunday and rammed one of them, causing damage and endangering Filipino crew members off a disputed shoal in the South China Sea, just a day after similar hostilities at another contested shoal, Philippine officials said.

The Philippines and its treaty ally, the United States, immediately condemned the latest confrontation near the Second Thomas Shoal, where two Philippine navy-operated supply boats and two Philippine coast guard escort ships had sailed to deliver food and other supplies to Filipino forces in a long-marooned navy ship that serves as a territorial outpost.

"We condemn, once again, China's latest unprovoked acts of coercion and dangerous maneuvers against a legitimate and routine Philippine rotation and resupply mission to Ayungin Shoal that has put the lives of our people at risk," a Philippine government task force that deals with the territorial disputes said in a statement, using the Filipino name for the shoal.

The Chinese coast guard's high-pressure water cannon blasts disabled and severely damaged the engines of the Philippine supply boat M/L Kalayaan, which had to be towed back to the western Philippine province of Palawan, Philippine officials said, adding the action seriously endangered the lives of the crew.

One of two Philippine coast guard escort ships, the BRP Cabra, sustained damage to its mast due to the water cannon blast.

PEACE PRIZE

Children of jailed Iranian activist accept Nobel on her behalf

OSLO

THE children of imprisoned Iranian activist Narges Mohammadi have accepted this year's Nobel Peace Prize on her behalf in a ceremony Sunday. Mohammadi is renowned for campaigning for women's rights and democracy in her country, as well as fighting against the death penalty.

Ali and Kiana Rahmani, Mohammadi's twin 17-year-old children who live in exile in Paris with their father, will be given the prestigious award at Oslo City Hall, after which they will give the Nobel Peace Prize lecture in their mother's name. Mohammadi, 51, was awarded the 2023 Nobel Peace Prize in October for her decades of activism despite numerous arrests by Iranian authorities and spending years behind bars.

At a news conference in Oslo on Saturday, Kiana Rahmani read out a message from her mother, in which the imprisoned activist praised the role international media played in "conveying the voice of dissenters, protesters and human rights defenders to the world." "Iranian society needs global support and you, journalists and media professionals are our greatest and most important allies in the difficult struggle against the destructive tyranny of the Islamic Republic government." *AFP*

EMERGING DESTINATION

Amid war in Ukraine, MBBS aspirants from India look to Uzbekistan

SAMARKAND

WITH the war closing Ukraine's door for MBBS aspirants from India, 93-year-old State Samarkand Medical University in Uzbekistan is seeing an exponential rise in the number of Indian students.

Till 2021, the public university used to receive around 100 to 150 Indian students and the number has gone up to 3,000 in 2023. The varsity has also accommodated over 1,000 Indian students who were earlier enrolled in various universities in Ukraine and had to leave their courses midway.

"The number of Indian students has risen exponentially and we are also making adequate arrangements to ensure the trend continues and the students do not have to face any discomfort," Dr Zafar Aminov, Vice Chancellor, State Samarkand Medical University told PTI. "We have hired over 40 teachers from India this year. Our teaching and learning in English only but we wanted to ensure that students do not find it difficult to deal with any difference in accent," Aminov said. While Ukraine was a popular destination among Indian students who wanted to move abroad for medical studies, the ongoing war has left that door closed and the aspirants are exploring new options.

The consultants began to work aggressively with the public university after it offered to accommodate Indian students who were pursuing their MBBS from Ukraine and had to be rescued when the war broke out.

Even though the duration of MBBS is six years in Uzbekistan, unlike five and a half years in India, teaching and learning in English, a peaceful atmosphere, affordable fees and practical exposure are the reasons that attract students to the new destination.

"Samarkand is a hidden gem of Central Asia. There are a few very important things here which are good for students. It is very secure for Indian girls and students," said Sunil Sharma, Director MD House, a consultancy firm. *AFP*

EXPRESS READ

Lanka House adjourned due to lack of quorum

Colombo: Sri Lanka's Parliament session on Sunday was abruptly adjourned till Monday as there was no quorum in the 225-member House. The adjournment came while the debate on the crucial Value Added Tax (VAT) amendment bill was underway. The quorum in the assembly is 20 members. Sunday's debate was expected to approve the VAT increase, with a vote held in the evening

Three dead as tornado tears through US state

Clarksville: Three people are dead, including a child, and nearly two dozen were being treated for injuries at a local hospital after a tornado tore through the middle of Tennessee on Saturday, officials said. Police and firefighters in Clarksville were responding to multiple reports of damage in the northern part of the city, which is north of Nashville near the Kentucky state line.

Sisi likely to get 3rd term as Egyptians vote in presidential polls

CAIRO

POLLING stations opened on Sunday for Egyptians to vote in a presidential election overshadowed by war in neighbouring Gaza and with little doubt the incumbent Abdel Fattah al-Sisi will secure a third term.

In a country gripped by the most severe financial crisis in its recent history -- inflation has hovered near 40 percent after the currency lost half its value and drove up the cost of imports – the economy is the crux of Egyptians' concerns.

Even before the current crisis, about two-thirds of the country's nearly 106 million people were living on or below the poverty line.

Before polls opened at 09:00 am, dozens of voters had already crowded in front of a polling station in a central Cairo school amidst heavy security, an AFP correspondent reported.

Voting will take place from Sunday until Tuesday, between 9:00 am and 09:00 pm each day, with the official results announced on December 18.

In front of the Cairo polling station, posters bore messages to "get out and participate" while a DJ played nationalist songs. "Of course people need to participate, but let's be realistic: these elections are set for Sisi, because no one knows the other candidates," a voter in her fifties told AFP. *AFP*

Rising debt and high inflation

Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, a retired field marshall in the Egyptian army, came to power in 2013 after leading the overthrow of elected Islamist president Mohamed Morsi

HIGH INFLATION

Inflation is at 38.5 % and food inflation 45.2%, official figures showed on Sunday, leaving Egyptians anxious

DEBT TRIPLES

Under Sisi's stewardship, the national debt has tripled while the various projects have failed to deliver on promised benefits

67 million people are eligible to vote, and all eyes will be on turnout after successive previous elections mustered low participation figures.

10 YEARS IN POWER

Sisi is not without supporters, many of whom credit him with engineering a return to calm in the country after the chaos that followed the 2011 uprising that overthrew Hosni Mubarak

In both the 2014 and 2018 elections, he won landslide victories with over 96% of the vote, according to official results

He later extended the presidential mandate from four to six years and amended the constitution to raise the limit on consecutive terms in office from two to three

₹26,505 CR have been invested by Foreign portfolio investors into the equity markets in the first 6 trading sessions.

Know the last-minute tax saving options for individuals

Apart from several investment tools such as ELSS, PPF, Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana, interest on home loan and donations can also help save taxes

MONIKA YADAV @ New Delhi

AS the financial year nears its end, it is crucial to take a look at your tax saving investments and expenses so as to ensure you don't end up paying higher taxes. The Income Tax Act offers various avenues for deductions under Section 80C, including investments like PPF, NSC, Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana, 5-year FD, ELSS, and life insurance policies. Additionally, contributions to the National Pension System (NPS) provide further deductions under Section 80CCD(1b).

In this article, we will explore these investment options and guide you on making well-informed choices to optimise your tax-saving potential in the final three months of the year.

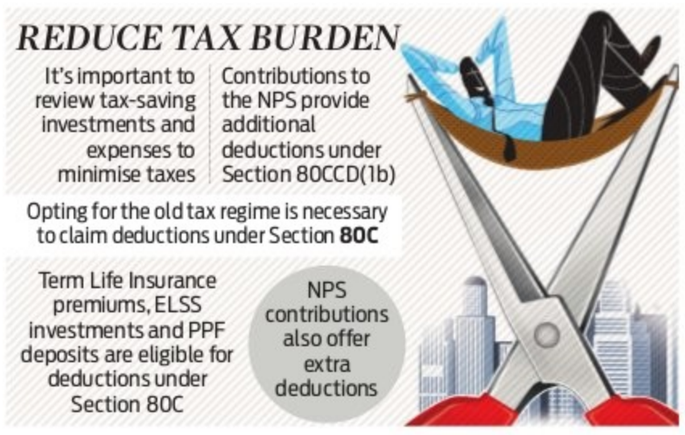
But before going ahead, taxpayers should know that these deductions are allowed only if you have opted for the old tax regime. Under the new tax regime, there are no deduction benefits available.

To claim deductions under Section 80C, it is important to opt for the Old Tax Regime, says Pankaj Mathpal, Founder, Optima Money Managers. By doing so, you become eligible for a range of investment options that can significantly reduce your taxable income.

Tax-saving options under section 80 C

Under Section 80 C of the Income Tax Act, one can get deduction benefit up to ₹1.5 lakh per year.

Term Life Insurance: If you have dependents relying on your financial support, considering a Term Life Insurance policy is essential. In addition to providing financial security to your loved ones in the event of an unfortunate incident, premiums paid towards such policies are eligible for deductions under Section 80C.


REDUCE TAX BURDEN
It's important to review tax-saving investments and expenses to minimise taxes
Contributions to the NPS provide additional deductions under Section 80CCD(1b)
Opting for the old tax regime is necessary to claim deductions under Section 80C
Term Life Insurance premiums, ELSS investments and PPF deposits are eligible for deductions under Section 80C
NPS contributions also offer extra deductions

ELSS: Equity Linked Savings Scheme (ELSS) is an ideal choice for those looking to create wealth while saving on taxes. As an open-ended mutual fund, ELSS offers the potential for higher returns through exposure to the equity markets. However, it is important to note that ELSS has a lock-in period of 3 years, as per Mathpal. While this lock-in period is relatively short compared to other investment schemes eligible under Section 80C, it is advisable to consider ELSS only if you have a long-term investment horizon, as equity markets can be volatile in the short term, he added.

Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana - Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana is a government-backed savings scheme designed to secure the future of girl children. Opening an account under this scheme not only offers tax benefits on investments but also provides tax-free interest. Parents can contribute to this account until their child turns 15, and the accumulated corpus can be utilized for her higher education or marriage expenses.

Public Provident Fund (PPF) - Another popular investment option eligible under Section 80C is the Public Provident Fund (PPF). With a maturity period of 15 years, PPF offers a secure and tax-efficient means of saving for the long term.

The returns earned on PPF investments are tax-free, making it an attractive option for risk-averse investors. Moreover, PPF accounts can be extended indefinitely in blocks of 5 years after maturity. By making regular contributions to PPF, individuals can not only enjoy tax benefits but also build a substantial corpus over time.

Additional tax-saving under NPS

National Pension System (NPS) - Contributing to the National Pension System (NPS) allows individuals to claim additional deductions under Section 80CCD(1b). This deduction is over and above the limit prescribed under Section 80C. By investing in NPS, individuals can secure their retirement and enjoy tax benefits simultaneously. With a maximum deduction of ₹50,000 per financial year, NPS provides an excellent opportunity to plan for a financially stable future.

Contribution towards health insurance

In addition, as per Ankur Kapur, any medical insurance premium for self or parents can avail tax benefit of up to ₹ 75,000 under section 80D of the income tax act.

Expenses allowed

Apart from tax saving investments, some of the expenses are also allowed to be deducted from the gross income to arrive at the taxable income. Some of those expenses are part of Section 80 C deductions limit of ₹ 1.5 lakh, one can claim deduction benefits up to ₹2 lakh on interest paid toward home loan. Expenses incurred for medical treatment of self or a dependent with disability are also eligible for deductions. A maximum expense of ₹1.25 lakh is deductible if the disability is severe. Donations to certain funds or trusts are also eligible for up to 100% deductions.

By considering all the above options one can drastically reduce the tax liability, but do seek advice from financial experts to avail these benefits.

MONEY MATTERS

NEW YEAR IS HERE! WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2024

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR
(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

INVESTING needs you to understand the impact of the macro and micro events on your money. The world in 2024 is likely to see more uncertainty as regional conflicts continue, trade disruptions lead to new supply chains, and global inflation remains high. It is a strange situation as we enter the New Year. Equity prices are at a record high. Bond yields are at a record high, too. Gold prices and crypto prices are surging to new levels. The simultaneous surge in these indicators shows a confused outlook. As an investor, you must be more selective about your asset classes.

India and the world in 2024

India is more interconnected to the world than ever before. Many experts predict a dramatic selloff in global equity prices in 2024. Indian shares are currently defying all logic and rallying. However, it is hard for Indian equities to stay immune to a global selloff. India's mutual fund investors are saving and investing with a gusto. For several months, systematic investment plans have contributed an average of $2bn per month to net inflows in equity markets. That is countering any selloff by foreign portfolio investors. If America goes for a soft-landing of the economy, the world will breathe a sigh of relief. However, business profits could come under pressure if inflation remains persistently high and interest rates stay elevated well within 2024. That could trigger a global selloff in equity markets in anticipation.

As an investor, you must look at any selloff as an opportunity. Most individuals tend to enter equity markets when prices are at a peak. You must continue with systematic investments if you are not an active investor in the market. Even if equity prices fall, you can continue to buy at lower levels.

India's inflation outlook continues to show risks. The Reserve Bank of India expects food prices to remain elevated in the next few quarters. If you look at expert views, inflation is unlikely to fall below 5% in 2024. That should tell you that interest rates are unlikely to be cut. The RBI's monetary policy committee will be unlikely to favour lowering key borrowing rates. That means the cost of housing, car loans and other loans are unlikely to be lower than in 2023.

SOURAV ROY

RBI has cautioned banks and non-banking finance companies on small-ticket unsecured loans and their potential risk to the financial system. For now, RBI merely encourages financial institutions to do internal stress tests. These are indicators of a worry that the banking system could become pressured if retail borrowing rises rapidly and individuals cannot pay up. The RBI committee does everything to maintain price stability.

Significant nations, including India, will witness general elections in 2024. India's general elections will put the election commission's code of conduct across India once dates are announced in January 2024. That means no major policy initiatives would be taken till the new government is in place in May 2024.

The Budget on 1 February would be a vote on account. The new government would present the full budget in June or July 2024. The election victory of the BJP in three key states in North India triggered a rally in the stock market. Financial markets are looking for continuity and stability from the new government. Expert commentary from those tracking Indian markets in India and abroad suggests a 10-15% gain in equity prices if the present National Democratic Alliance led by the BJP wins a third term. If a new government comes, share prices could fall until there is clarity on the economic agenda.

It is likely to be volatile in 2024. Share prices are trading at a record high, and there is limited headroom for any significant rally. Your finances are protected on the downside due to high-interest rates and high returns on fixed deposits and government bonds. You may want to continue with your regular, systematic investments and keep some cash to buy quality stocks if there is a selloff in 2024. A professional advisor can help you make the proper allocation in 2024.

MONEY-WISE

INVESTMENT OPTIONS FOR RETIRED PEOPLE

FINANCIAL ADVICE

ASHOK KUMAR
Head of LKW-India.
He can be reached at
ceolotus@hotmail.com
(Views expressed here are personal)

LAST fortnight, I concluded my last column suggesting about the urgent need for retirees to avoid the Chinese Curse of outliving their money. In this column, let us look at some options available to retirees to avoid that ignominy.

The Government's National Pension Scheme (NPS) is emerging as a popular avenue for Retirement planning though it may still undergo a few more iterations before settling down. It is also capped in terms of providing an additional Tax break.

Mutual Funds too offer multiple Retirement Plan options and one of the popular options is a Hybrid Aggressive Retirement Fund. These funds have a lock-in period of 5 years or 58 years of age, whichever is earlier. Let us now proceed to glance at a few funds from this category.

HDFC Retirement Savings Fund Hybrid Equity Plan has an AUM of ₹1,140 crore. The Current Asset-allocation is 71% in Equity, 17% in Debt and 12% in Cash and Cash equivalents. The equity investments are spread across sectors like Banks and Capital Goods. The debt investments are in Government Securities and Corporate Securities. This fund has recorded returns of 20% over three-years and 16% over five-years.

ICICI Prudential Retirement Fund Hybrid Aggressive Plan has an AUM of ₹218 crore. The Asset-allocation mix is 84% in Equity and 16% in Debt. The equity investments are in primarily Metals and Automobiles industry. The debt allocation comprises of Government Securities, Corporate Securities and Deposits. This fund has recorded returns of 19.4% over three-years.

Nippon India Retirement Fund Wealth Creation Scheme has an AUM of ₹ 2,554 crore. Its current asset allocation mix is 98% in Equity and 2% in Cash and Cash equivalents. The Equity portion primarily includes investments in Banks and Software. This fund has recorded returns of 20.5% over three-years and 11.5% over five-years.

A Reverse Mortgage is yet another option that involves the Bank or Financial institution paying the house owner (usually a Retiree) a fixed monthly amount during their lifetime. Post the house owner's lifetime, the entity offers the Legal Heirs the option of repaying the sum issued under reverse mortgage with interest and taking ownership. Another popular Option used by several investors is to invest in an Insurance Company's Unit Linked Investment Plan (ULIP) in their late forties and allowing it at least a dozen years to mature even though the lock in period is usually of 5 years. Even with the new marginal tax levy, it remains a feasible Retirement option if your financial advisor performs the balancing act between debt and equity adroitly.

Yet another option which has not really taken off in India is the Reverse Mortgage option. A Reverse Mortgage involves the Bank or Financial institution paying the house owner (usually a Retiree) a fixed monthly amount during their lifetime. Post the house owner's lifetime, the entity offers the Legal Heirs the option of repaying the sum issued under reverse mortgage with interest and taking ownership. To sum up, multiple options are available to choose from, provided Retirees plan well ahead of Retirement.

Government seeks ideas from youth on making India developed nation by 2047

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE Prime Minister's Vision Document 2047 is likely to be unveiled in January, as the government has decided to seek ideas from the youth, who would be ultimate beneficiaries of the Vision Document.

Thegovernment has sought ideas from youth on three key questions – How a Viksit Bharat should look like in 2047, what we need to do to reach this goal and whatyou can do to make Viksit Bharat@2047 possible.

As part ofthe initiative, the Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch 'Viksit Bharat@2047: Voice of Youth' on 11 December 2023 at 10:30 AM via video conferencing.

The PrimeMinister will also address the Vice Chancellors of the Universities, Heads of Institutes and faculty members in workshops organised at Raj Bhawans across thecountry, which will symbolise the start of the initiative.

Chief Executive officer of Niti Aayog BVR Subrahmanyam, which is drafting the vision document, said that most consultations with industries and other ministries have beencompleted, and the draft document is almost ready.

"However, it was felt that it is important to channelise the innovative ideas of youth into nation-building by inviting them to ideate and contribute to the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047," said the Niti Aayog CEO.

According to him, the outreach initiative provides an opportunity to lakhs of youth across India to share their ideas at Viksit Bharat@2047.

Subrahmanyam said that as India stands at a crucial juncture, poised to take off on its growth trajectory, there is enormous work that needs to be undertaken in amission mode to make India a Viksit Bharat by 2047.

'BNPL to see short-term impact on credit access'

UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

THE move by lenders to curb supply of small ticket loans will surely result in reducing the pace of penetration into under-served communities, said experts.

"However, we believe that it will be short-lived as the industry will adjust to the situation by adopting better underwriting practices and growing a sustainable business. The BNPL (buy now pay later) model will see a short-term impact on the access of credit to the underserved communities since a large share of consumers who were first time credit users subscribed to small ticket loans," said Aditya Gupta, Co-founder & CEO, Credilio.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently advised banks to exercise caution with unsecured loans, as they have grown significantly faster and RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das asked banks and non-banking financial companies to strengthen their internal surveillance mechanisms.

The central bank also increased risk weights on consumer credit exposure of banks. Paytm too last week announced that in consultation with lending partners, the company has recalibrated the portfolio organisation of less than ₹50,000, which is prominently the post-paid loan product.

It said this will now be a smaller part of its loan distribution business going forward.

Paytm also said that Merchant loans, which are given to MSME as business loans, will continue to be a focus for the company.

As these loans are given for business purposes to small merchants, they don't get impacted by the recent regulatory guidance.

The BNPL model has been one of the most popular forms of small ticket lending. Experts believe the industry is working towards fine tuning business models to bring back the products in the market. Motilal Oswal Financial Services said Paytm's strategy to move away from small ticket size BNPL loans will affect the total loan originations via the platform as the segment forms over 50% of total disbursements. "Take rates are expected to be marginally affected as BNPL as a product has lower take rates; however, a pick-up in higher ticket size personal loans should offset the overall impact," it added.

"Our experience with fintech lenders offering small ticket loans has not been very productive in the past due to a range of issues such as lack of consistency, limited disbursal limits and variable interest rates," Credilio CEO said.

He added that they never 'sacrificed' speed of underwriting for offering better loan propositions to consumers.

"Our small ticket loans (primarily those under ₹ 50,000) contribute less than 10% in terms of value. So RBI's new ruling does not have any significant impact on the company's revenue or profitability," he added.

Chahar doubtful for remainder of SA T20Is

Senior seamer Deepak Chahar remains a doubtful participant for India's remaining two T20Is against South Africa as he is yet to join the squad due to personal reasons. It is understood that Chahar is currently at home as a close family member has not been keeping well and he urgently needed a break from the sport.

Making a comeback into the Indian T20I side for the first time since Aug 2022, it will be interesting to see what role the all-rounder plays

The Jadeja conundrum

GOMESH S @ Chennai

WHEN Ravindra Jadeja was named as the vice-captain of the T20I team for the South Africa tour, it did come as a surprise. For one, the left-handed all-rounder had not played for India in the shortest format since August 2022. The last time he took the field in a T20I was during the 2022 Asia Cup during which he got injured and missed the T20 World Cup.

Yet, more than a year on, Jadeja has found his way back to the T20I set up. And being a vice-captain makes it clear that he is likely to play every game available (the first T20I on Sunday was called off due to rain). In a squad that also has Kuldeep Yadav, Ravi Bishnoi, Washington Sundar, it is hard to make sense of what Jadeja's role would be. What makes it all the more interesting is the person Jadeja has replaced — Axar Patel.

During the time Jadeja was out of the T20I side, Axar has played 25 T20Is, taking 24 wickets at 23.95 while operating at an economy of 7.43. With the bat, he has struck 214 runs at 149.65. The batting numbers might not have been as impactful, but Axar has shown what he is capable of with the bat, time and again. Jadeja, meanwhile, has played only in the Indian Premier League during this time, and he had a stellar season with the Chennai Super Kings, helping them win the title in a thrilling final — 20 wickets and 190 runs at 142.86 SR.

If one were to compare the two all-rounders' numbers since 2021 in the shortest format, there is very little to differentiate them as a bowler. The numbers say as much. Averaging mid-20s with the ball and striking at mid-130s with

HOW THEY HIT?
In T20s since 2021

Name	vs Spin	vs Pace
Jadeja	94.07	154.03
Axar	138.6	146.07

the bat. In fact, if anything, Jadeja has been a tad bit more economical than Axar in T20Is. Now, it is no secret that both Jadeja and Axar have upped their striking with the bat in recent years. However, as is often the case, the devil lies in the details.

Since the start of 2021, Jadeja has hit pacers at a strike rate of 154 in all T20s. Axar, meanwhile, has hit pacers at 146. The difference, though, is how they take on spinners. Jadeja faced a massive slump in his SR, going down to 94.07 against spinners in the period. Axar, on the other hand, hits spinners at 138.6. Even in the recently concluded ODI World Cup, Jadeja struck at 125.39 against pace and struggled against spin at 74.54.

Now, there is no argument as to the quality fielder Jadeja is or how impactful he can be with the ball when the pitches are on a slower side. However, given the obvious match-up, teams might not take long to bring on spinners against him on such pitches. Which brings the argument to one question — is Jadeja going to be a designated pace-hitter in the T20I team?

In a team that has the likes of Rinku Singh in the lower middle-order — Hardik Pandya is also expected to come back next year — does his role with the bat get minimal, making him a frontline bowler and gun fielder? If it is a stop-gap arrangement for just this tour, why would Axar — who played the T20I series against Australia after missing the ODI WC — be left out with just one more series (three T20Is against Afghanistan in January) left before the T20 World Cup?

There are a lot of questions, but not many answers at the moment. A lot could, once again, come down to how the two all-rounders fare for their respective teams in next year's IPL.

For now, Jadeja has a chance to make an impact and strengthen his case in the next two games in South Africa.

RECORD SINCE 2021

Name	Format	M	Runs	SR	W	AVG	ECO
Jadeja	T20Is	14	240	137.93	12	25.08	6.84
	IPL	42	533	137.72	38	26.97	7.37
Axar	T20Is	39	293	149.48	36	24.47	7.58
	IPL	39	505	136.85	32	30.15	7.09

Familiar failings cost India despite learnings

KALYANI MANGALE @ Chennai

WITH the T20 World Cup in Bangladesh less than a year away, every move made by the Indian team management will come under the lens. Especially as the new coach Amol Muzumdar takes charge, India can test their options with a fresh approach and pick the best possible squad for the marquee event. There are more learnings from the first series of the Mazumdar-Harmanpreet Kaur era, even as England bagged the three-match T20I series in Mumbai.

Playing their first bilateral T20I series since the tour of Bangladesh in July this year, India were repeating similar mistakes from a year ago when they faced World Cup champions Australia for five T20Is. After making a great start with the ball, in the middle overs, they let go of all the pressure built in the powerplay. It has always been the case with the team and that could be one of the earliest tasks for Muzumdar. Renuka Singh Thakur

Shreyanka Patil grabbed 3/19 against England on Sunday | PTI

Brief scores: England 126 all out in 20 ovs (Heather 52; Shreyanka 3/19, Saika 3/22) **lost to** India 130/5 in 19 ovs (Smriti 48, Jemimah 29, Amanjot Kaur 13 n.o).

coming back from a long injury break has done her job early on with seven wickets but she has not been that effective otherwise. With the series against Australia and the eventual WC coming up, the management needs to look at Thakur as a reliable option in the death overs.

Staying true to his word about giving opportunities to players, the coach did give opportunities to Saika Ishaque and Shreyanka Patil. The two spinners who came through the ranks of the Women's Premier League have certainly made an impact with five wickets each. In what was Titas Sadhu's first big assignment as a bowler, she has learned a few valuable lessons that will come in handy going forward. While the experienced duo of Deepti Sharma and Pooja Vastrakar could not impress, they are vital for India.

India's batting in this series has proven again that at least one of the top four batters needs to stay longer for them to have any chance of putting in a strong total or chasing one. With Shafali Verma taking her time and running out of partners in the first T20I, India fell well short of the target, even when the opener made her first half-century against the full-member nation since December 2022. Taking a leaf out of opposition captain Heather Knight's book, Mandhana stayed rooted at the crease till the 17th over in the final T20I and India chased down the small total in the second innings. The known weakness in the side has historically put pressure on the top four. There is enough caliber available for India in the middle overs with the likes of Richa Ghosh, Amanjot Kaur, and Vastrakar. Which makes one question the use of depth if players in the top order feel the constant need to sty at the crease till the end.

For the next few weeks, the attention will be on the red-ball fixtures against England and Australia. After that, India has the opportunity to put what they learned from this series to use against the side that has been a thorn in the flesh for the longest time. A series loss against a team like England on home soil might hurt less if that helps this Indian unit learn the lessons and be ready for the next challenges.

U-19 Asia Cup: Pakistan beat India

AGENCIES @ Dubai

PAKISTAN rode on Azan Awais's classy unbeaten century to beat arch-rivals India by eight wickets in the ongoing U-19 Asia Cup here on Sunday. India managed a mediocre 259 for 9 in 50 overs, largely due to late surge by Sachin Dhas, who tonked three sixes in his 42-ball-58.

Skipper Uday Saharan (60 off 98 balls) and opener Adarsh Singh (62 off 81 balls) couldn't force the pace adding only 93 runs in 20 overs. For the winners, right-arm medium pacer Mohammed Zeeshan took four for 46. The biggest name among U-19s – Sarfaraz Khan's younger brother Musheer (2) couldn't

Brief scores

India 259/9 in 50 ovs (Uday Saharan 60, Adarsh Singh 62, Sachin Dhas 58, Mohd. Zeeshan 4/46) **lost to** Pakistan 263/2 in 47 overs (Azan Awais 105 not out, Saab Baig 68 not out, Shazaib Khan 63, Murugan Abhishek 2/55).

repeat the performance of the opening game. In reply, Pakistan romped home in just 47 overs with southpaw Azan anchoring the chase, scoring a patient 105 not out off 130 balls with 10 fours.

He first added 110 for the second wicket with opener Shazaib Khan (63 off 88 balls) and another 125 in just 19.1 overs with Saad Baig, who smashed unbeaten 68 off just 51 balls with eight boundaries and a maximum. Skipper Saharan used as many as seven bowlers but they didn't measure with only off-spinner Murugan Abhishek picking up the two wickets. Musheer had a forgettable outing as he was clobbered for 32 runs in four overs.

India will be playing its final group league match on Tuesday against Nepal and need to win it in order to qualify for the semi-final while Pakistan with two wins from two games would have to lose by a huge margin to Afghanistan in order to qualify. It shouldn't be a problem for India colts as Nepal aren't the toughest team to beat, having already lost both their encounters.

EXPRESS READ

Ashwini-Tanisha lift title in Guwahati

GUWAHATI: Indian women's doubles pair of Tanisha Crasto and Ashwini Ponnappa on Sunday secured their second Super 100 title with a straight game win over Chinese Taipei's Sung Shuo Yun and Yu Chien Hui at the Guwahati Masters here. The second seeded Indian combination beat the World No 81 combination 21-13, 21-19 in a 40-minute final.

Jr Women's hockey WC: India finish ninth

SANTIAGO (CHILE): Goalkeeper Madhuri Kindo shone under the bar as India displayed remarkable resilience to eke out a 3-2 win over USA in sudden death to finish ninth at the Junior Women's Hockey World Cup here. In a classification match, both India and USA displayed tremendous grit as the match ended at 2-2 in regulation time.

Basketball: TN men & Rly women champions

LUDHIANA: Indian Railways women retained the title defeating Kerala ((80-50) while Tamil Nadu Men beat Indian Railways (72-67) to win the title of the 73rd Senior National Basketball Championship in Ludhiana. TN women beat Karnataka (65-54) to win bronze while Punjab men beat Delhi (71-65) to finish third.

Sidhu wins, Haryana top medal tally

BHOPAL: Asian Games medallist Vijayveer Sidhu finished on top of a star-studded men's 25m centre-fire pistol field on the the concluding day of the 66th National Shooting Championship for pistol events. Haryana finished comfortably on top of the medal tally with 45 medals, including 20 gold at the M.P. State Shooting Academy ranges.

Upcoming national meet a criterion for selection

FIROZ MIRZA @ Chennai

THE international wrestling calendar will begin with the all-important Ranking Series in Zagreb, Croatia on January 10 next year. In its bid to send the national team for the event, the ad-hoc committee, looking after the sport in the country in the absence of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI), has come up with a selection policy for the two Ranking Series scheduled in 2024.

As per the policy, gold medallists from the 2023 Senior National Championships in all weight categories and 2023 Asian Games medallists will be chosen to participate in the first Ranking Series. "If the 2023 Nationals gold medallist is unable to participate due to injury or any other reason, the silver medallist will be given an opportunity to compete," says the policy.

The United World Wrestling (UWW) organises four Ranking Series for senior wrestlers in a calendar year except in the Olympic year where only two such series are organised. The second event is scheduled in Budapest, Hungary from June 6 to 9. The events are important as they allow wrestlers to secure vital ranking points which in turn give them seedlings thus helping them get a favourable draw during big events like the Olympics.

For the second Ranking Series, the ad-hoc panel's policy says the players selected to represent India at the Olympics after final trials will be eligible.

While the policy to make national gold medallists eligible to compete deserves credit, what raises the question is the fact that the 2023 nationals has not been held yet. As per the announcement made by the ad-hoc committee comprising Bhupender Singh Bajwa and Suma Shirur, the senior nationals is scheduled in Jaipur from January 2 to 5.

As per the UWW, the participating National Wrestling Federations must register their members through Athena 30 days before the first competition day of the Championship. Once this deadline has passed, entries will not be accepted, and the wrestlers will not be authorized to participate.

Wrestling coach Kripashankar Patel welcomed the move of the ad-hoc committee as he believed it would help the deserving wrestlers to compete in the Ranking Series during the Olympic year. He, however, feels only a few days' gap between the two tournaments (senior nationals and Ranking Series) can affect the performance of the Indian wrestlers. "Entries would not be an issue as the UWW knows about the current situation in the country. It's good that the gold medallists will get a chance to compete there but the gap is too small," Patel told this daily.

Elaborating further, he said, "A wrestler needs at least 15-20 days to recover after an event. The weigh-in and then tough bouts mean they need time to recover. The nationals gets completed on January 5 while the Ranking Series starts five days later. This can affect the performance of our wrestlers and may also lead to injuries."

The selection policy says that in the event of a scenario not explicitly addressed in the policy, an ad-hoc committee will reconvene to determine the most objective and fair solution for the wrestlers. So far, the committee has not announced an alternative way in this regard with the last date for entry on Sunday (December 10). Bajwa, the committee member, didn't respond when queried in this regard.

As many as six wrestlers won medals at the Asian Games making them eligible for the Ranking Series. However, a minimum of 10 wrestlers can represent the country in each style making it 30 grapplers in three styles (men's freestyle and Greco-Roman and women's wrestling). Besides, each National Olympic Committee is eligible to send a maximum of three wrestlers per weight category in the Ranking Series.

Manchester City's Bernardo Silva celebrates his goal against Luton on Sunday | AFP

Man City end winless run

AGENCIES @ London

MANCHESTER City survived a scare at Luton to end their four-match winless run in the Premier League with a 2-1 victory, while Chelsea's problems mounted with a 2-0 defeat at Everton on Sunday. With star striker Erling Haaland absent due to injury, Pep Guardiola's side trailed to Elijah Adebayo's goal late in the first half.

But, after squandering a host of chances, City finally clicked into gear with two goals in three minutes after the break.

Bernardo Silva equalised and Jack Grealish bagged the winner to give City a much-needed first win in five league matches. After their lethargic 1-0 defeat at Aston Villa, which followed draws with Chelsea, Liverpool and Tottenham, City were in danger of falling out of the title race.

Liverpool's win at Crystal Palace on Saturday had moved the leaders seven points clear of City. **Results: Sunday:** Luton **1-2** Man City; Fulham **5-0** West Ham; Everton **2-0** Chelsea; Tottenham **4-1** Newcastle. **Saturday:** Aston Villa **1-0** Arsenal.

BIG INSPIRATION

Former boxing national chief coach Bhatt hopeful of Dronacharya Award

ANMOL GURUNG @ Chennai

WOMEN'S boxing in the country is in a good place at the moment. That's down to the collective efforts of everyone involved — the boxers of course, the national boxing federation (BFI), Sports Authority of India (SAI) and the support staff. One person who's had an influence in lifting the sport is former women's national chief coach Bhaskar Bhatt.

Having played his hand in setting up a strong base for the current Indian team, he has taken the back seat and is currently guiding boxers at SAI NCOE, Rohtak. Bhatt's last assignment with the senior women's team was when India returned with four gold medals in the 2023 IBA World Championships in New Delhi. Now, Bhatt is hopeful that he'll be considered for the prestigious Dronacharya Award. His track record speaks for itself. Given his association with the sport for almost three decades, the 59-year-old is a fitting candidate.

Bhatt's coaching sojourn began way back in 1992, when he joined SAI in Kurukshetra. In the following years, he used different pincodes, shifting base on multiple occasions in order to impart knowledge to aspiring talents. But it was in 2005, during his stint in Guwahati, that he got some form of recognition. After recognising Bhatt's dedication towards his craft, the then national chief coach, Anoop Kumar, took him under his wings to assist him.

Lovlina Borgohain is a household name and she has a fair chance of medalling for the second time in Olympics. It was Bhatt and other members of coaching staff in SAI Training Centre (STC) who had a hand in solidifying the culture of boxing in Guwahati. "Most boxers (from Guwahati) were national medallists. A lot of boxers did well at the international level as well. Kalpana (Choudhary), Pranamika Bora were well-known boxers from Assam. That was the start of my journey. Shiva (Thapa) and his father also used to come for training then," Bhatt, who was named best coach of SAI for the year 2021-22, recollects.

Bhatt, who comes across as a mild-mannered person, felt the times during the pandemic to be a real game-changer.

"The lockdown period was critical. We learnt a lot as a team. The environment was like a Gurukul then. The teamwork — boxers, BFI, SAI, coaches, sports medicine experts — then was game-changing. Now, most of the boxers are doing well. Boxers like Nitu (Ganghas), Praveen (Hooda), Preeti (Pawar), Arundhati (Choudhary) have now found a place in the elite team," he noted. Preeti and Praveen are, in fact, in the running for Olympic glory having already secured quotas in the recent Asian Games. Arundhati missed out then but is very much in the equation.

Sportspersons making sacrifices in order to chase their dreams is well-documented. Bhatt is no stranger to sacrifices. With his daughter and wife, he has changed homes multiple times. New environment, new school for his daughter, it would have been challenging for the Bhatt family. His family has been his rock in his pursuit for coaching excellence. "Wherever I have been transferred to, my wife and my daughter came along. My wife has always been supportive. She used to look after our daughter. If I hadn't gotten that support, I would probably not be where I'm today. My parents and my elder brother, who was into boxing, were also really encouraging."

In order to focus on his daughter's studies, he stepped aside from the national circuit from 2012 to 2016 before returning as national youth women's chief coach. "It would have been impossible without my family's support," he said.

It was in Pithoragarh district where Bhatt got his early lessons in the sport. His father, who was an Army man, pushed him to pursue the sport along with his elder brother under the watch of Captain Hari Singh Thapa, a renowned boxing champion from Uttarakhand.

"He (Captain) used to be our Guruji. My brother learnt from him and won gold at the state level and then my father wanted me to tag along with my brother. Guruji used to travel around 5 kms (morning and afternoon) everyday just to teach us without any fee. Seeing him, we used to get motivated and used to feel we should do better."

Along with boxing lessons, he also picked up some valuable insights like gratitude, dedication and sacrifice — lessons that have proven to be invaluable in his career so far. "All their blessings have helped. Gradually, I improved and was part of the nationals and joined SAI."

This is not the first time Bhatt is applying for the top award. In 2021, his name was excluded at the last minute for which he had faced embarrassment. Bhatt has no regrets and is hopeful that things will be different this time.

Medals galore

A look at medals won by Indian women with Bhaskar Bhatt as head coach...

Youth Women's World C'ships
2017: 5 Gold, 2 Bronze | **2018:** 2 Gold, 2 Silver, 4 Bronze | **2021:** 7 Gold

Youth Asian C'ship
2018: 3 Gold, 3 Silver, 2 Bronze
2019: 5 Gold, 3 Bronze
2021: 4 Gold, 6 Silver, 1 Bronze

Senior Women
World Championships
2022: 1 Gold, 2 Bronze
2023: 4 Gold

CWG: 2022: 2 Gold, 1 Bronze

Asian C'ships
2022: 4 Gold, 1 Silver, 2 Bronze

In addition to CLAT, there are several other entrance tests for admission to law courses in Indian colleges. Here's a glimpse at the most popular ones

OTHER LAW ENTRANCE EXAMS IN INDIA

NATIONAL-LEVEL

1 **Law School Admission Test (LSAT):** The test is administered by the Law School Admission Council (LSAC). In India, it is available for both UG and PG law courses (LLB and LLM). It can be taken online as well as offline, at a centre.

2 **Common University Entrance Test (CUET):** Administered by the National Testing Agency (NTA) and governed by the University Grants Commission (UGC), CUET is for both LLB and LLM programmes. CUET is meant for admission to law departments of central and other universities.

INSTITUTE-SPECIFIC

1 **All India Law Entrance Test (AILET):** The test is conducted by National Law University Delhi for admission to its LLB, LLM and PhD programmes. There is no maximum or minimum age limit for appearing for the AILET for any programme.

2 **Symbiosis Law Admission Test (SLAT):** The test is conducted by Symbiosis International (Deemed) University (SIU) to admit students in four Symbiosis Law Schools (SLS), which are SLS Pune, SLS Noida, SLS Hyderabad, and SLS Nagpur. SLAT is meant for LLB programmes only.

STATE-SPECIFIC

1 **Maharashtra Common Entrance Test (MH CET) Law:** It is conducted by the Maharashtra State Common Entrance Test Cell (MH SCETC) every year for admission to law colleges in Maharashtra. The test is meant for LLB programmes only.

2 **Telangana/Andhra Pradesh Law Common Entrance Test (TS/AP LAWCET):** The test in AP LAWCET is conducted by the Acharya Nagarjuna University and TS LAWCET by the Osmania University, Telangana. They are meant for admission to LLB programmes in their state law colleges.

BEING A LAW GRADUATE

BEFORE DONNING THAT BLACK COAT

CAREER LOOKOUT

According to the experts, here's what a law student can do:

GENERAL COUNSEL
Many students prefer to join leading law firms in India as well as abroad as general counsels (GC). They are treated as in-house counsels in the legal departments of companies, including banks and insurance companies.

LEGAL ASSOCIATE
Tech giants like Google, Facebook, Apple, TATA, Mahindra and the rest, hire legal professionals to handle the legal matters of their companies.

LITIGATION LAWYER
Many students prefer to join courtrooms immediately after completing their degrees, while other students prefer to finish their master's degree and then join courtrooms.

PUBLIC PROSECUTOR
There are three public prosecutor posts available, for which, students can apply and appear for an exam.

BANK OFFICER
Legal professionals are sought to serve as valuers in banks, including in the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

JUDGE
Students willing to serve as judges can apply for the Judicial Services exams. Fresh graduates are eligible to apply, and after seven years of service, they are eligible to be recommended for the Chief Justice post in a high court.

LAW OFFICER
The government has a special law officer post, which is on par with that of a Chief Secretary in rank. Even special courts require law officers.

PROFESSOR
Students interested in academia can pursue a master's/PhD and serve as professors. The opportunities in academia have become more lucrative and the opportunities are growing. Students also choose to finish their master's or PhD abroad and return to teach in India, while some prefer to teach abroad.

THINK TANKS & RESEARCH
Various NGOs and inter-governmental organisations appoint legal writers and researchers for their projects.

INTERNATIONAL LAWYER
A majority of Indian students move to foreign universities for higher studies. While the UK is the most preferred destination, the US, Canada, Australia and Germany are also popular. Students can then become international lawyers and lawyers with dual degrees, eligible for practicing in two countries, including India.

Abhipsa Mohanty talks to experts who ask students to self analyse their route

THE Common Law Entrance Test (CLAT) took place on December 3, and the registration deadline for the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) 2024 is December 26. Aspirants are likely to grapple with confusion as they navigate through decisions such as selecting colleges and courses. Additionally, choosing a definitive career path in law presents a considerable challenge due to the multitude of options. To arrive at a concrete conclusion, there's a need to find what interests them, experts say.

'Course' of action

The first step is to decide on a law college and course for themselves. Two types of degree courses, spanning three and five years are available for students. "There is a certain amount of confusion over which one to choose. While the three-year programmes were recently introduced in National Law Universities (NLUs), the five-year programmes have a historical and legacy factor attached to them. Many prominent lawyers have pursued this programme and it is well-established," notes Abhineet Maurya, a student at NLU Delhi.

Professor Satyanarayan Mallick from Utkal University Law College, Odisha, explains that since five-year courses are integrated, it is generally chosen by students who have passed 10+2, while the three-year courses are popular among those who have completed graduation. "However, whether students choose one or the other, it doesn't affect their future prospects in any way as the scope of law is vast," he says.

However, if they choose the five-year integrated programme, students have to choose between Arts, Commerce and Science streams for graduation. Arts, or the BA-LLB course remains the most popular, experts point out. "But courses like BCom-LLB and BBA-LLB are also emerging, though not many colleges offer them yet," Abhineet says. As for BSc-LLB, the takers, as well as colleges offering them, are fewer in number.

legal bent

The choice, very clearly, depends on a student's interest. "They should remember that they are the ones who will be studying the subject for the next few years, so it's important to choose something that excites them," advises Dr V Balakista Reddy, Professor and Dean, School of Law, Mahindra University, Telangana.

Choice is yours

Based on the choice of their course, and rank obtained in the entrance test, students could decide on the colleges. The rank of the college is also important, and one can always look up the NIRF (National Institute Ranking Framework) rankings on the internet, suggests Abhineeet. "Aspirants can also talk to students or alumni of the college they have in mind," he adds.

The qualifications of the faculty, opportunities available for research, and a law school's track record in terms of internships and job placements are also relevantfactors when deciding on a college, says Professor Reddy. "Look for law schools where the faculty has expertise and active research interests in the areas of law that align with your own research goals. Many law schools have research centres, institutes, and initiatives dedicated to various legal fields. A network of legal professionals and successful alumni can lead to better opportunities for students," he adds.

"A college's location is also sometimes considered by students. Though almost every law school has residential facilities, few students prefer nearby colleges," Abhineet specifies. Prof Reddy suggests students to visit the college campus to assess the library, research facilities, technology, and other resources, and to assess the campus culture, extra-curricular activities available, and the quality of life there.

Plunging into law

Choosing a college and course can still seem overwhelming for a few. Prof Mallick asserts that it becomes simple once the students are aware of the scope of law. However, choosing a career is again a Herculean task. Prof Reddy suggests students undergo a self-analysis and discover what actually aligns with their ambitions. "The career path will be decided as per a student's natural inclination," states Prof Faizan Mustafa, Vice-Chancellor of Chanakya National Law University, Patna.

"If someone likes to sit and adjudicate, they can become litigation lawyers; if someone likes the real courtroom action, they can become a judge; if they want to sit in the comfort of an office, they can get into a corporate," he exemplifies. But each profession has its own challenges, though Prof Mustafa emphasises that there are no disadvantages with any.

For students who prefer to decide their profession only after starting college and acquainting themselves with the subjects, Professor Anand Prakash Mishra, Associate Dean, Jindal Global Law School, opines that every law school should maintain an Office of Career Services (OCS). "This will help students find their interests through counselling, building their CVs and providing internships. Internships are crucial. They enable students to work in various fields so that they can decide what they would like to pursue in the future," he said.

But in case a student does not have access to an OCS or internships from their college, Prof Mishra advises them to secure internships themselves. "They can approach the courts and they would find lawyers willing to accommodate them as interns. They could also apply online for corporate internships," he says.

IN WITH THE NEW

Experts say that many new law streams are emerging and students have several more options to choose from. "They are not separate law streams, but an amalgamation of different laws for application in a particular industry," student Abhineet Maurya explains

Prof V Balakista Reddy lists the top five emerging law fields:

1 **Technology and Cybersecurity Law:** With the increasing importance of technology and growing cyber threats, students are showing a strong interest in technology and cybersecurity law. This field covers legal aspects related to data privacy, intellectual property, cybersecurity regulations, and emerging technologies like AI and blockchain.

2 **Environmental and Energy Law:** Environmental concerns and sustainability have gained prominence globally. As a result, students are increasingly drawn to environmental and energy law. This field focuses on legal issues related to environmental protection, climate change, renewable energy, and natural resource management.

3 **Healthcare Law and Bioethics:** The healthcare industry is complex, with evolving legal and ethical challenges. Students are opting for healthcare law and bioethics courses to understand the legal aspects of healthcare delivery, patient rights, medical research ethics, and healthcare regulations, especially in light of global health crises.

4 **Sports and Entertainment Law:** The sports and entertainment industries continue to grow, offering lucrative career opportunities. Students are drawn to this field to learn about contracts, intellectual property, and the unique legal challenges in the world of sports, entertainment, and media.

5 **International Trade and Investment Law:** In a globalised economy, international trade and investment law have become critical. Students are pursuing this course to understand international trade agreements, dispute resolution, and investment regulations, as well as to prepare for careers in international business and trade law.

In law, fields like fashion, shipping, mining, real estate and immigration are also emerging. "Law offers multiple options. It is no longer limited," Prof Faizan Mustafa concludes

top notch

EXPERTS MENTION THAT MANY STUDENTS ARE CHOOSING TO MOVE TO OTHER FIELDS AFTER THEIR LAW DEGREE. HERE ARE A FEW OPTIONS ONE CAN CONSIDER

Moving on from law

1 **Administrative services:** Students write the administrative services exams with law as a subject in the Mains

2 **Corporate management:** Students earn an MBA or a similar degree after law and join a corporate role as executive officers and managers

3 **Entrepreneurship:** Setting up businesses and ideating on business prospects is also a trend among law students in the present day

THOUGH all these options are alluring, experts opine that students need to be sincere, as law isn't a profession for the insincere. With this in mind, Sibani Mishra, a law graduate from Bhubaneswar, explains the challenges attached to a few of these professions. "Always have a Plan B," she asserts.

"The number of lecturer and professor posts are limited in every state. The same goes for judicial posts," Sibani says. A judicial services aspirant herself, explaining the competition involved, she adds, "In Odisha this year, 3,400 students had applied. Out of them, 996 students were selected for the Mains, but only about 53 among them will be appointed as judges, as that is the vacancy advertised."

Further, in her opinion, though corporate jobs appear to be secure in terms of money, students need to be groomed for such jobs. They need to have internship experience and knowledge about the work they will be undertaking. "Government college students might find themselves lacking in grooming and internship opportunities. They have to make up for it with their own effort," she says.

"Also, if the corporate work involves international and Intellectual Property-related laws, those with a master's degree have a better chance of being selected, as only one paper of each of these subjects is taught during LLB and the knowledge gained is insufficient," the student adds.

As for being a practising litigation lawyer, Sibani feels patience is key. "Establishing one's practice will take a few years and initially one has to undergo financial struggles," she adds. She also mentions that since practice can be done at any point of time, it can be a suitable Plan B.

Questions related to post-CLAT exam procedures, seat availability and participating colleges on your mind? We have it all covered

Seeking answers?

- **When will the CLAT results be declared?**
The results will be declared by the end of December 2023.

- **When is the counselling likely to be held?**
According to the Consortium of NLUs, the counselling will be held in January 2024.

- **What is a good CLAT score?**
According to experts, considering the previous years' cut-offs, a score between 95-105 is a fair score in CLAT.

- **How many NLUs are participating in the seat matrix in CLAT 2024?**
A total of 24 NLUs are participating. Notably, NLU Delhi and Meghalaya do not admit students via CLAT, but conduct their own entrance tests, so they are excluded from the matrix.

- **How are seats divided between NLUs?**
Each NLU advertises its separate vacancy. However, since the NLUs are spread across various states, a certain percentage of seats at each NLU is reserved for its respective state domicile students. The percentage varies from state to state.

doubt time

- **Do other colleges also accept CLAT?**
Yes, many self-financed and private colleges also accept CLAT scores for admissions.

- **What should candidates with reservations do?**
To claim the benefit of reservation, candidates must produce the relevant certificates as prescribed by the Central/State Government and as required by the respective NLU at the time of admission.

- **Where can CLAT scores be used, besides admissions?**
Candidates can use their CLAT scores for recruitment in various Public Sector Units (PSUs) and to apply for the post of Judge Advocate General (JAG) officer in the Indian Army.

- **What is the validity period of the CLAT score?**
The CLAT score is valid for only one year.

- **Can students visit an NLU campus before admission?**
Students who registered for CLAT 2024 are eligible for a campus visit to the NLUs. If they have registered for this visit, the Consortium of NLUs will share the updates on the website soon.

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MONDAY

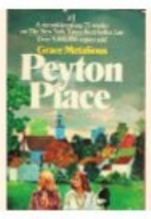
DAY'S DIARY

Movie premiere

On this day in 1957, *Peyton Place*, a film directed by Mark Robson and starring Lana Turner and Hope Lange was released

ADAPTATION

The film is based on the 1956 novel of the same name by Grace Metalious. It is an exposé of the residents of a small fictional New England mill town in the years of World War II



THE PROTAGONIST

Lana Turner was cast in the lead role of Constance MacKenzie, a New England mother struggling to maintain a relationship with her teenage daughter

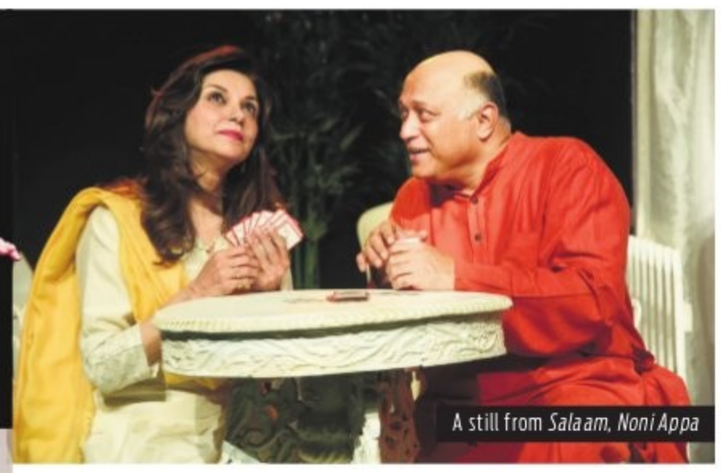
THE SUCCESS

The film was nominated for nine Academy Awards, including Best Picture and thus was a box-office success depite criticisms

A curated guide to happenings in the city

PG 2

A still from *Gauhar*


A still from *Salaam, Noni Appa*

'THERE'S A REASON I LIKE ORIGINAL WORKS'

Lillete Dubey

Back in B'luru with *Salaam, Noni Appa*, and *Gauhar* this weekend, illustrious theatre director and artiste Lillete Dubey speaks to *CE* about her love for theatre and the city

POOJA DAS

Busy glancing through her scripts, looking over changes while overseeing the rehearsals, one can feel the energy that theatre artiste and director Lillete Dubey infuses in her productions. After having been a part of numerous shows for over three decades, Dubey is coming back with her two plays – *Salaam, Noni Appa,* and *Gauhar* – to the city this weekend.

A name synonymous with theatre and cinema, Dubey will be playing the lead alongside well-known TV actors Jayati Bhatia and Yateen Karyekar in *Salaam, Noni Appa,* which is based on Twinkle Khanna's comic short story, *The Legend of Lakshmi Prasad,* a heartwarming tale of an autumn romance. Talking about her creative process of being an actor and director in the play, Dubey says, "If I am also playing an important part in a play, I do it instinctively and then I get my co-actors to be my eyes and ears; to observe me and give me some feedback, so I can incorporate those things into my performance, making it all the more democratic."

On adapting original scripts like *Gauhar* which is based on Vikram Sampath's book *My Name is Gauhar Jaan!*, Dubey says, "We have taken a lot of time discarding, adding, and trying new things. There's a reason I like original works because it's a very creatively satisfying process."

Based on the life of the famous Thumri singer Gauhar Jaan, Dubey talks about how the former's persona and historical significance attracted her to the story, "She is an absolute iconoclastic woman who broke many glass ceilings, including being the first to record on a wax record in the world, in 1902. What really broke my heart is that even many involved in the play had not heard of her, somebody who historically is such an important figure." Gauhar's story is relevant even today, and as Dubey says, "She was very talented and feisty, yet as a woman, she was very vulnerable and became dependent on men. Women could be highly successful but with men, they sort of play themselves down to negotiate their relationships. This is a very modern thing also. It's a horrible quality but it is something that many women do which is why she is someone we can relate to very easily."

Both the plays are coming to Bengaluru for the first time, which according to Dubey, has one of the most passionate theatre audiences. "I have been coming to Bengaluru for more than 30 years. The city has a tradition of culture whether it's Carnatic music or Kannada theatre. So when I come here, I know these are people who love theatre, and its inculcated in them. And Ranga Shankara is a very special for me when I come to perform," she concludes.

(Salaam, Noni Appa, and Gauhar will be staged on Dec 16 and 17, respectively, at 3.30pm and 7.30pm at Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar. Tickets are priced at ₹500. Details: bookmyshow.com)

BONJOUR OORU!

Traditional Indian food, and a side of French wines in some fine company... Prominent Bengalureans made their way to a lavish sit-down dinner at the ITC Windsor when a delegation from the Bordeaux World Heritage Editions and its finest winemakers in partnership with city-based Abhay Kewadkar, put together the evening, along with Thierry Berthelot, Consul-General of France. In attendance were businessman Sandeep Maini, socialite Manjusha Maheshwari, writer Shoba Narayan, among others.

Aslam Gafoor (@aslamgafoor) is a hospitality professional with experience in business development, sales and marketing with well-known hotels, and food and beverage companies. A few of his passions are travel, food and wine, and he enjoys sharing these experiences as a columnist.

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'**

The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in *CE* on Monday. The first prize winner will win a voucher for a set menu for 2 worth ₹2,000 from Amiel Gourmet**

THE RIGHT ANSWERS

1) Panettone 2) Rosca de Reyes 3) Ozoni

FIRST 3 TO GET IT RIGHT

1) Rathi R
2) Chandan S
3) Prabhu Das

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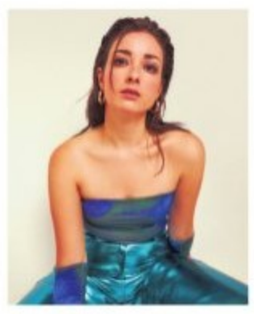

Restobar to host global musical artistes

Restobar Mirage in Ashok Nagar will host a diverse lineup of local and international musical artistes for celebrations lasting until December 31. The lineup includes El Mukaka on December 15, **DJ Sinca** on December 31, among others. For more details, call 87639 90088.

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Happy Birthday to the most Charming & Amazing little Boy. Enjoy the Birthday and make it Memorable.
Best Wishes From :
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Mother : Poongodi & Family
AADHESH LITHVIK.D

Happy birthday
Santhosh kumar
Happy Birthday! May your birthday be wonderful and full of surprises and Joys.
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BIRTHDAY WISHES
Happy Birthday to the most Charming & Amazing little Boy. Enjoy the Birthday and make it Memorable.
Best Wishes From :
Father : Alexandar
Mother : Malini & Family
AKAN PRITHWIN

Happy birthday
Murgesh Rao
Happy Birthday! May your birthday be wonderful and full of surprises and Joys.
Best Wishes From:
Nagalakshmi

FACILITIES AVAILABLE :
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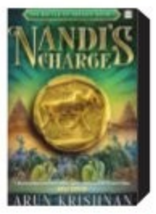
Shower Cubicle
Interior Works
1, 8th Main, Kothanur Main Road, Srinidhi Layout, Chunchagatta, Bengaluru-62
E-mail : saient.aluworks@gmail.com

EAGLE STATIONERS
WHOLESALE PRICE STATIONERY
email:eaglesty@gmail.com / Ph: 9916631071
ALL OFFICE, COLLEGE, SCHOOL AND COMPUTER STATIONERY
H.O. No. 23, Krishna Building, Basement floor, Avenue Road, Opp to SBI, Bangalore-560002.
Branch: No. 214, 4th Cross, Cubbonpet Main Road, Near Halasur gate police station, Bangalore-02, Ph: 40992241

SHREE BALAJI BOOKS & STATIONERS
LARGEST SHOWROOM IN AVENUE ROAD
Ph: 080-42117659 / Mob: 9141705965
10, Ground Floor, Shree Krishna Avenue, Near Mysore Bank Circle Avenue Road, Bangalore-560002.
E-mail: sbbsbangalore@gmail.com

BOOK NOOK

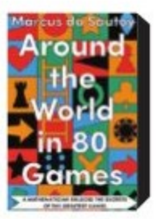


Nandi's Charge
by Arun Krishnan

In Nandi's Charge, the first book of the Battle of Vathapi series, the author takes us through the riveting tale of preparations on the Pallava side for an eventual campaign against Pulikeshi and the Chalukyas.

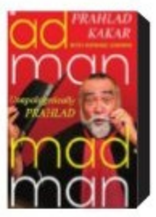
The Fast and The Dead
by Anuja Chauhan

All of Habba Galli, Shivajinagar, is disturbed when eccentric Dondi Pais empties her double-barrelled shotgun to scatter a pack of noisy mongrels on Karwa Chauth night. ACP Bhavani Singh is on hand to investigate. But as corpses start piling up in the bustling bazaar, will the canny old policeman be able to prove his powerful hunch?



Around the World in 80 Games
by Marcus du Sautoy

An award-winning mathematician explores the maths behind the games we love and why we love to play them.



Adman Madman: Unapologetically Prahlad
by Prahlad Kakar with Rupangi Sharma

From those who have a love for advertising to those who have a zest for life, from the young to the old, this memoir will capture your heart and your mind, and tickle your funny bone.

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

Panel Discussion

Attend this panel discussion on the key issues raised in the book titled *H-Pop: The Secretive World Of Hindutva Pop Stars*, followed by a Q&A with the audience. **WHEN:** Dec 11, 6.30pm **WHERE:** Bangalore International Centre, Domlur **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Power of Words

Participate in this event, titled The Write Out Loud (Poetry Evening), where poets and poetry enthusiasts come together to share their expressions, celebrate the language, and explore the depths of human emotions through poetry.
WHEN: Dec12, 7.30pm **WHERE:** Lahe Lahe, Kodihalli **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Standup Comedy

Attend this standup comedy mic titled 69 where comics from various cities will fill the atmosphere with laughter. Featuring artistes are Debasish Rath, Rishabh Kanishka, Kritesh Singh, and more.
WHEN: Dec 11, 8.30pm **WHERE:** Comedy Garage, Krishnarajapura **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Dance Master

Join this dance workshop and master the art of five fantastic dance styles.
WHEN: Dec 11, 7.30pm **WHERE:** LVDS, Indiranagar **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Meditation Session

Join this session and experience a seated meditation guided by expert instructors that will help manage stressful situations calmly, and relax the mind. **WHEN:** Dec 11, 8.15am **WHERE:** SAMA - The Calm Mind Studio, Whitefield **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Innovative Odyssey

Attend this summit titled Innowave 2023 which will delve into the depths of entrepreneurship culture with entrepreneurs, innovators, investors, and more, through numerous activities and programmes. **WHEN:** Dec 12, 9am **WHERE:** Christ University, SG Palya **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Coaster Painting

Join this workshop and learn the art of painting on a wooden coaster using acrylic paints.
WHEN: Dec 11, 5pm
WHERE: Art Beat, HSR Layout
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

STARRY EVENING

Actors Dhanya Ramkumar and Suraj Gowda at the inauguration of a salon academy in Koramangala| NAGARAJA GADEKAL

QUICK FIX

POTATO PEEL CHIPS

Contributed by **V Shivani,** Hyderabad

INGREDIENTS
- **Potato peel:** 2
- **Chilli powder:** 1/2 tsp
- **Salt:** 1 tsp
- **Chaat masala:** 1/2 tsp

METHOD
- Peel the potato and then wash it in salt water.
- Deep fry the washed potato peel in hot oil.
- Remove the peel from oil after it is fried, add salt, chilli powder and chaat masala.
- The dish is ready to serve.

What's cooking in your kitchen?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

FIT BIT

KURMASANA PREP
(TORTOISE POSE PREP)

It is beneficial for relieving stress and improving concentration. This pose opens the door to Pratyahara, the threshold to the inner world. The mind then becomes quiet and centered. The Kurmasana is a primary series of Ashtanga Yoga.

STEPS
- Sit in Dandasana (Staff Pose) with your legs spread out in front of you and keep your back erect.
- Take a few deep breaths. Move your legs away from each other. Bend your knee. Inhale and bring the arms from inside of the legs.
- While exhaling, bend forward slightly and put both your hands below the knees of the feet.
- While stretching your legs, grab on to the ankles by your arms from outside.
- Make sure that the upper body is slightly bent forward, and both the knees are pressing the upper arms.
- Look forward or on the floor. Relax and breathe deeply, staying in the pose for 30 to 40 seconds.
- Slowly, come out of the pose.

BENEFITS
- Helps increase the flexibility of the hips and pelvis.
- Beneficial for patients with asthma, constipation and flatulence.
- Helps improve memory by increasing blood flow to the brain.
- Helps the nervous system to function better and reduces stress.
- Helps those suffering from cervical disorders.
- Strengthens body parts like the shoulder, arms, legs, wrists, abdomen, hips and spine.
- Stretches chest, shoulders, upper back quadriceps, and abdomen.
- Helps strengthen the digestive system.

LIMITATIONS

Those with shoulder, back, arm or leg injury, and pregnant women, must avoid this.

People suffering from sciatica or chronic arthritis should avoid this.

Those suffering from herniated disks must avoid this.

By N Elumalai, PhD Scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

DHAK DHAK (Hindi)

Four women set out for a road trip to the highest motorable pass in the world on their motorbikes. It becomes a journey of self-discovery.

Cast: Ratna Pathak, Dia Mirza, Fatima Sana Shaikh, Sanjana Sanghi

- **Watch on:** Netflix

GARUDAN (Malayalam)

A cop Harish and a college professor Nishanth get entangled in a dangerous crime. One must fight for his integrity, and the other must fight for justice.

Cast: Suresh Gopi, Malavika, Biju Menon

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

THE ARCHIES (Hindi)

Set in 1960s India, Archie and the gang navigate romance, friendship and the future of Riverdale.

Cast: Suhana Khan, Agastya Nanda, Vedang Raina

- **Watch on:** Netflix

JIGARTHANDA DOUBLE X (Tamil)

In 1975 Tamil Nadu, a filmmaker and a dangerous gangster collaborate to make a Western movie.

Cast: SJ Suryah, Raghava Lawrence, Nimisha Sajayan

- **Watch on:** Netflix

CAMPUS BEATS (Hindi, series)

A Gen Z girl uncovers her hidden dance talents and in the process experiences the true meaning of friendship, love, freedom and justice in a modern dance academy sharply divided by socio-economic class.

Cast: Shruti Sinha, Shantanu Maheswari, Tanvi Gadkari

- **Watch on:** Amazon miniTV

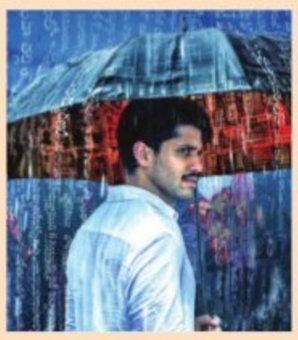
All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

BHAGAVANTH KESARI (Telugu)

A man seeks to settle the score with a powerful businessman who causes him significant financial loss.

Cast: Balakrishna, Kajal Aggarwal, Arjun Rampal

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video



DHOOTHA (Telugu, series)

Journalist Sagar's life is turned upside down when newspapers predict chilling incidents that unfold in his life.

Cast: Naga Chaitanya, Parvathy Thiruvothu, Prachi Desai

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

FOREIGN

DOCTOR WHO (English, series)

The Doctor lands in London to find an old friend, a new enemy and aliens wreaking havoc.

Cast: David Tennant, Yasmin Finney, Catherine Tate

- **Watch on:** Disney+ Hotstar

A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN (English, series)

Following the journey of the WWII all-American professional women's baseball league players as they travel across a rapidly changing US.

Cast: Abbi Jacobson, Chante Adams, D'Arcy Carden

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

A NEARLY NORMAL FAMILY (Swedish, series)

Adam and Ulrika Sandell live a seemingly perfect life with daughter Stella, 19, in a polished residential suburb. Stella then ends up in police custody, accused of murder.

Cast: Christian Fandango Sundgren, Alexandra Karlsson Tyrefors, Lo Kauppi

- **Watch on:** Netflix

BOTTOMS (English)

Unpopular best friends PJ and Josie start a high school fight club to meet girls and loose their virginity. They soon find themselves in over their heads when the most popular students start beating each other up in the name of self-defense.

Cast: Ayo Edeberi, Rachel Sennot, Havana Rose Liu, Nicholas Galitzine

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

SUBSCRIPTION	
Netflix:	₹199/month
Prime Video:	₹299/month
Jio Cinema:	₹999/year
Disney+ Hotstar:	₹899/year
Zee5:	₹699/year
Viki Rakuten:	₹299/month
Aha:	₹699/year
SonyLIV:	₹299/month

Former Tottenham Hotspur players Ledley King and Ossie Ardiles, who were recently in the city, on watching their first ISL game, the potential of Indian football on the worldstage, and more...

PACKING A PUNCH

DESE GOWDA

THE 2026 Fifa World Cup is 30 months away, yet the race to qualify for one of the biggest sporting events in the world has already begun. Once considered one of the best teams in Asia, the Indian National Football team is hoping to punch above its weight and qualify for the tournament for the first time in its history. But achieving that dream might take more than just the collective will of the nation.

"The enthusiasm for the sport is very apparent; India really wants to take football seriously, be the best at it and compete at the highest level," says former Tottenham Hotspur player and current ambassador Ledley King, who was recently in the city as part of a country-wide tour aimed at developing grassroots football. "But it's still in progress and will take some time. It needs work from the ground up, developing young talent and improving the standard of coaching. We've seen that countries like Japan are taking the time to put themselves on the world map of football and there's no reason why India can't do that as well."

(Top) Ledley King and Ossie Ardiles at Sree Kanteerava Stadium in the city; The duo share a vada pav

King was accompanied by fellow former Spurs player and cult hero Ossie Ardiles. Together, the duo visited Mumbai late last month before arriving in Bengaluru, meeting with fans and engaging in practice football with upcoming talent. They also attended the Indian Super League match between home favourite Bengaluru FC and Punjab FC as special guests at Sree Kanteerava Stadium on Nov 30.

Speaking of his experience at the city, King says, "We were always aware of players coming from the Premier League and playing here, for instance in the Indian Super League. So we've always had a distant view of football in India. But being in a game for the first time and experiencing the atmosphere is different altogether. It's about understanding the standard of players at one of the top football leagues in the country, so that we have the opportunity to work with young people in the country."

"I've been to India before and I can see the difference right now in the support and enthusiasm for the sport. It's much bigger than it used to be," says Ardiles, adding that despite the enthusiasm, the country still has much to do to improve the level of the game. "We cannot say we will be ready to compete at the World Cup in a year's time. That's simply not possible. But we do have to start somewhere. First of all, we need to take stock of where we are currently. The first step is to establish a good professional game and then to work from the grassroots level to identify and nurture potential talent.The talent is definitely there, it's just a question of taking that first step," he says.

Just last week, Spurs announced a tie-up with Bengaluru-based super division club Kickstart FC, which trains upcoming talent and helps them reach their potential. The three-year long partnership entails technical support from the former, helping Kickstart with training and curriculum. "Good coaches will bring players up at a quicker rate, and improve their understanding of the game. It's also important to give players as much encouragement as possible and let them express themselves. If we build the right environment with the right coaches, players will automatically flourish," Ardiles adds.

> *I've been to India before and I can see the difference right now in the support and enthusiasm for the sport. It's much bigger than it used to be*– Ossie Ardiles, former Tottenham Hotspur player

SLAVIA SLAYS!

With ample ground clearance and a sleek design, Skoda Slavia blends the comforts of an SUV without compromising on the finesse and wow factor of a sedan

LEKSHMI C PILLAI

THE harsh realities of the road may lure prospective vehicle buyers to consider an SUV over a sedan. But what about a sedan built on an SUV platform? Well, that's Skoda's Slavia for you. The car has emerged as a hot favourite among petrolheads. With ample ground clearance and a sleek design, Slavia, built on the platform of Kushaq, blends the comforts of an SUV without compromising on the finesse and wow factor of a sedan.

Design and detail

The Slavia makes a strong impression with its unique styling. The hexagonal grille with chrome surround and crystalline LED headlamps, complemented by L-shaped DRLs, create a distinctive front fascia. Its sporty coupe-like rear design, accentuated by dynamic LED tail lamps, further enhances its appeal. The sedan form factor with SUV-like ground clearance offers a practical yet stylish road presence.

Interior

The interior of the Slavia exudes luxury and comfort. Beige and piano black luxe interiors, combined with a 20.32cm virtual cockpit and spacious seating, create an inviting cabin. Highlights like the electric sunroof with anti-pinch technology, ventilated black leather seats, a 25.4 cm infotainment system, and a 2-spoke steering wheel add to the premium feel.

Performance

The Slavia offers two engine options – a 1-litre and a 1.5-litre turbo petrol engine. The 1.5-litre variant, with 148 HP and 250 Nm of torque, promises spirited performance. The DSG automatic gearbox enhances the driving experience. Innovative features like Active Cylinder Technology (ACT) for improved fuel efficiency and Start & Stop Recuperation technology are commendable.

Safety and Price

With a 5-star safety rating, the Slavia ensures peace of mind. It includes features like six airbags, a rear camera, and sensors. The price range of ₹13.8 lakh to ₹ 19.11 lakh positions it competitively in the midsize car segment.

Efficiency

While the Slavia delivers an exciting drive with its turbo engine, fuel efficiency is around 12-13 kmpl in real-life conditions, which might be a concern for those prioritising fuel economy.

In summary, the Skoda Slavia stands out with its unique design, luxurious interiors, and impressive performance. While it may not satisfy those seeking high fuel efficiency, it remains a compelling option in the midsize sedan market, especially for those who appreciate a blend of style and performance.

XPRESS HIGHWAY

FORTNIGHTLY SEGMENT ON WHAT'S REVVING UP IN THE AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR

The writer is a freelance auto expert who hosts TV shows and anchors the YouTube channel 'CAR KADUVA'

NEW RELEASES

Hyundai India to increase prices

Hyundai Motor India Limited has announced its decision to increase prices of its models with effect from January 1, 2024. The company said the price hike is owing to a slew of factors, including rising input costs, adverse exchange rates, and an increase in commodity prices. Hyundai's line-up consists of 13 models across the segments. They include Grand i10 NIOS, i20, i20 N-Line, Aura, Exeter, Venue, Venue N-Line, Verna, Creta, Alcazar, Tucson, Kona Electric and all-electric SUV IONIQ 5.

Kia's K-Charge to beat EV range anxiety

Kia India has unveiled K-Charge, an innovative initiative in the 'MyKia' app that allows users to discover over 1,000 EV charging stations nationwide. Kia is also extending access to the charging network to non-Kia customers, thus providing valuable assistance to the Indian EV scene by helping drivers overcome range anxiety. Kia has collaborated with 5 charging points to enable this initiative. Kia users can enjoy three months of free charging at Relux charging stations.

JAWA Yezdi motorcycles camp

Jawa Yezdi Motorcycles announced a Mega Service Camp for Jawa and Yezdi motorcycle owners in Kerala. The camp will take place in Kochi from December 14 to 17, offering an exclusive opportunity for existing owners of 2019-2020 models to enhance their ownership experience. Comprehensive motorcycle health-check, extended warranty offer, exchange and buyback evaluation zone are some of the key highlights of the camp.

@quofles

(This economics graduate spends her leisure time preparing for the zombie apocalypse)

In a Wonder-ful world

AS someone who has given up on a not-insignificant number of platformer games, take it from me Super Mario Bros. Wonder is easy. But it's not easy in a condescending way, like when game developers throw in a "super easy" mode, almost telling me that I'm not worthy of playing their game the way they built it. No. Super Mario Bros. Wonder doesn't have a super easy mode. It builds simplicity into the game's progression itself. And that's not all it does. The game starts with the familiar dozen characters – you know, Mario, Princess Peach, Luigi, Toad and Toadette etc., unfortunately being bested by evil Bowser, who turns into a castle (yes, that's right – turns into a castle).

As we venture out to liberate Flower Kingdom from his clutches, immediately noticeable in this new place are the themed worlds – there are deserts, jungles, beaches, and lands with mushrooms. It only gets weirder from here. We soon discover that the way to destroy Bowser-castle is to slowly liberate the lands of his handiwork. This is done by getting a hold of "Wonder Seeds" – a sort of access pass between the islands and tiny castles. The only thing to Wonder about these seeds is the easiest way to collect most of them. It's a thinker, especially if some levels are harder to complete than others. So it's admirable that the creators have devised a way to make this easier on the player.

It's also admirable how the creators managed to pack in new elements into Wonder that are enjoyable, significantly different from the previous in the series, and actually provide a bit of a challenge even 20 years worth of games later. In this game we have two new features that bring in a considerable amount of whackiness – Badges, and Secret levels. The collectible Badges are the game's inventive way of doing away with the annoyance that is a skill tree. As we wade our way through the worlds, new power-ups are unlocked through the badges.

They can be swapped out to alter the character abilities and change how fast and easily you complete a level. With action badges, you can, in theory, use a grappling-vine underwater, and dolphin-jump in land-based levels. The secret levels are a bit more difficult to explain. Within each level is a hidden flower. Once located, it takes you into a parallel universe that closely mimics the actual level. Only, things are a little different here. You inherit the looks and traits of a brand new character, and the surroundings behave a little weirdly. You might turn into a blob, trying to avoid sentient rocks from attacking you.

You might turn into one of the brown Goombas that you just crushed – walking groggily and with the painfully debilitating feature of not being able to jump. Frankly there are more new features than I can explain in a simple article. Consider that I still haven't told you about the in-level bonuses where Mario turns into a rampaging elephant, or a plumber that blows bubbles that encase enemies. And I haven't told you about the bonus levels either – appearing at an opportune moment with easy challenges.

Like the badge challenge that doesn't let you lose additional lives, or a search party where you sniff about the level looking for Flowers. Wonder also allows for cooperative and online-play this time. The year 2023 has been a great game for Nintendo with this Mario game, and Tears of the Kingdom. I would strongly recommend Super Mario Bros. Wonder for an aspiring gamer who has been hammered by multiple platformers, and is looking for an easy win, and a fun challenge simultaneously.

(The writers' views are their own)

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **CHANDAN SOMA SHEKAR PATIL,** aged around 22 years S/o **SOMA SHEKAR VEERANNA** (Father) and **NEELAMBIKA PATIL** (Mother), R/at No 43, Neelamabari, 8th Cross, RMV 2nd Stage, Devasandra, Bangalore- 560094, holding Indian Passport Number Z5615724, state that my names **CHANDAN SOMA SHEKAR PATIL** and **CHANDAN SOMSHEKAR PATIL** pertains to one and same person i.e. **CHANDAN SOMA SHEKAR PATIL** (Real and Final Name) sworn vide affidavit dated 08-12-2023 before Notary **N Peruvazhuthi**, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Sathi Roy** (old name) W/o Madivala gowda aged 37 years R/a No.6, 3rd Main, 2nd Cross, Near Shanthidhama School, Byraveshwara Nagara, Sunkadakatte, Bangalore-560091 have changed my name to **SWATHIPATIL** (new name) for all official purposes in future vide affidavit dt 07.12.2023 Sworn before Notary and Advocate Devaraja.E. Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MANJULA L HARTI**, W/o. Linganagouda Harti, Residing at 560/4, MP Sports Club Road, Near MP Sport Club, 9th Block, Sir M Vishweshwaraiah Layout, Mallathahalli, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560 056, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **MANJULA TIMMANAGOUDRA** to **MANJULA L HARTI** vide affidavit dated 09.12.2023 sworn to before K.C. Shashikala, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Sathisha Chendur Vasudeva Murthy S/o Vasudeva Murthy Chendur Srinivasachar Residing at No.12/1, 3rd Cross, 5th Main, NR Colony, Bengaluru-560004, have changed my name to SATHISH CHENDUR VASUDEVA MURTHY vide affidavit dated 10-11-2023 sworn before notary K S Nataraja, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **PRATIBHA AMARCHAND CHHAJER, residing at: B-304, Raheja Residency, Koramangala, 3rd Block, Bangalore-560034,** have changed my name to **PRATIBHA LALWANI** Affidavit dated 08.12.2023 sworn before advocate and notary B.M. Chandrashekar, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Jeseentha Mathew** W/o Sri. Shibu Mathew, aged about 50 years, resident of Flat #T 7, Third Floor, Block 2, Sy. No.99/2, Electra Park, Kammasandra Road, Near Huskur Gate, Vinayaka Nagar, Electronic City, Bengaluru, 560 100, have changed my name from **Jeseentha Edapparackal Mathai** to **Jeseentha Mathew,** vide affidavit dated 8/12/2023 sworn to before A.Gerard advocate and notary Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Manoj Kumar, aged about 35 years, S/o Harish Chandra Dubey, R/at #006, B Block, TNR Vaishnovi, Thubarahalli, Bengaluru-560066 Karnataka, India. I have changed my name from '**MANOJ KUMAR**' to '**MANOJ KUMAR DUBEY**'. Vide affidavit dated 09.12.2023, Sworn before Advocate & Notary Indira S.S, Bengaluru.

DECLARATION OF NAME AFFIDAVIT

I, **Sonal Teja Reddy,** aged about 18 years, D/o Y.Srinivas Reddy and Smt Jamuna S.Reddy, Residing at No.16/2, Opposite to AKME Harmoney, Apartment (Back Gate), Amblipura Village, Bellandur Gate, Sarjapura Road, Bengaluru-560 103, do hereby declare that, my actual name is **Sonal Teja Reddy** and in my ICSE Grade 10th Marks Sheet my name wrongly mentioned as **Sonal Reddy** instead of my actual correct name **Sonal Teja Reddy.** I hereby declare that my correct name is **Sonal Teja Reddy** and from my childhood my name has been calling as **Sonal Teja Reddy** only. And I swear the same Vide my affidavit dated 08-12-2023, sworn before Notary and Advocate **B.R.Rajashekara Reddy** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SANGEETHA M REVENKAR**, W/o Santhosha .E, aged about 31 years, R/o No. 207/A, 10th Main Road, 2nd Cross, 2nd Floor, Nagendra Block, Girinagar, Bangalore-560050, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SANGEETHA M REVENKAR** to **SANGEETHA S SHET,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **SANGEETHA S SHET** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 08.12.2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **H.G. VENKATARAMU** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MURALI SHAMANNA,** S/o. Shamanna T N, Aged about 41 years, Residing at Saikuteera Apartment, No. 145/146, 16th D Cross, Hongasandra, Mico Layout, Begur Road, Bangalore - 560 068, Karnataka, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **MURALI T S** to **MURALI SHAMANNA** vide affidavit dated 08.12.2023 sworn to before Dharani .P, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Purvi Chendur Sathisha / Purvi Chendur D/o Sathish Chendur Vasudeva Murthy Residing at No.12/1, 3rd Cross 5th Main, NR Colony Bengaluru-560004, have changed my name to **PURVI SATHISH CHENDUR** vide affidavit dated 16-11-2023 sworn before notary KS Nataraja, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **B.C.Manjunath S/o. Chikkanna, aged about 41 years, residing at Boilahalli Vilalge, B.K.Halli Post, Jala Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore-562149,** have changed my name from **MANJUNATHA CHIKKANNA to B.C. MANJUNATH** Vide Affidavit dated 08.12.2023 sworn before advocate and notary, A. Narayanaswamy, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **RISHI RAJ RAJPUT,** Residing at, No.04, 80 Feet Road, 3rd Main, 8th Block, Koramangala, K R Garden, Bengaluru-560095, Karnataka, India, have changed my name from **RISHI RAJ** (Old Name) to **RISHI RAJ RAJPUT** (New Name), vide affidavit dated:10-12-2023, sworn before Advocate & Notary, K.V. Mani, Bengaluru, for all Official & Future Purposes.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Madhumati S Vaishnav, (New Name) D/o Shrikrushna Balakdas Vaishnav, Ex W/o Sri. Ashish Anil Rao, R/of No. 313, 17th Main, 33rd Cross, Jayanagar T Block, Bangalore - 560041, Karnataka, India. I have changed my name from '**VIBHA ASHISH RAO**' to '**MADHUMATI S VAISHNAV**'. Vide affidavit dated 08.12.2023, Sworn before Advocate & Notary Rashmi Patel, Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT

I, **RACHAPPA CHALMI,** aged 39 years, S/o Parutappa Chalmi, No. 163, Surabhi Apartment, Gruhalakshmi Layout, Near Engineers Academy, Kamalanagar, Basaveshwaranagar, Bengaluru-560079, do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **RACHAPPA CHALMI** and **RACHAPPA** are one and the same and refers to me only, henceforth I shall be known and called as **RACHAPPA CHALMI** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 07.12.2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **RATNA.N** at Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT

I, **SRI NAGARAJ V REDDY,** S/o Sri Venkatesh R, aged about 23 years, R/at No. 25, 2nd Cross, Near Kavita Medicals, Manjunathnagar, Gowdanapalaya, Bengaluru-560061, do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **NAGARAJ V REDDY** and **NAGARAJ V** are one and the same and refers to me only, vide affidavit dated 09.12.2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **B.G. SRIRAM** at Bangalore.

KARAVALI WILL TAKE PRAJWAL DEVARAJ INTO UNCHARTED TERRITORY

..says Gurudatha Ganiga, as he expresses confidence in the audience's reception, of his upcoming film, emphasising their inclination towards embracing untold tales wholeheartedly

CE FEATURES

We had previously reported that Prajwal Devaraj's 40th project will be directed by one-film-old director Gurudatha Ganiga. The film's title, *Karavali*, was unveiled amidst fanfare in Mangaluru on Sunday. The first look poster, accompanied by an intriguing teaser, hints at an intense action narrative set in the coastal belt. The plot revolves around Kambala, a popular race in Tulunadu, earlier glorified in Rishab Shetty's *Kantara*.

The teaser promo of *Karavali* offers a glimpse into the film's alluring world and reveals Prajwal Devaraj's unique appearance. The tagline Human v/s Animals symbolises the birth of two new lives - a mother giving birth to her child and a buffalo giving birth to its calf - hinting at the relationship, and conflicts between humans and animals.

Gurudatha Ganiga, who debuted with the Ambareesh starrer *Ambi Ning Vayassaytho*, wears multiple hats for *Karavali* as a writer, director, and producer. Sharing his insight into the project's conception, Gurudatha says, "The original plotline is by Chandrashekar Bandiyappa. It is a unique story for me and holds special significance as it is based on an incident that took place in my hometown. I've wanted to bring this film to the screen for a long time but was unsure of its reception by the audience. However, we have realised that today's audience, post-Covid, has evolved. They are seeking content, and I am confident they will embrace this kind of subject wholeheartedly. That's the strength we get from the Kannada audience. Even if I have told this plot to around 9 people, they've mentioned not hearing a similar story before. So, it's rooted in culture, spanning from Karavali to Kasaragod to Bhatkal. There are numerous stories to explore from the coastal belt, and this is among the first of its kind," he expresses.

Regarding working with Prajwal Devaraj, he shares, "He has never experienced such a subject. We'll be exploring a different side of him, unexplored thus far, through Karavalli. This film will delve into the uncharted territories of Prajwal's capabilities."

The film, produced by Gurudatha Ganiga Films, in association with VK Films, *Karavali* will have Abhimanyu Sadanand handling cinematography, art by Guna and music will be scored by Sachin Basrur.

Prajwal Devaraj, Gurudatha Ganiga and Gurukiran

Nirup Bhandari teams up with debutant Sachin Vaali for a family entertainer

The film commenced with a script pooja, and the makers plan to begin shooting in January 2024

CE FEATURES

NIRUP Bhandari started his acting career with his brother and director Anup Bhandari in *Rangitaranga*, and followed it up with notable characters in films like *Rajaratha, Vikrant Rona, Adhi Lakshmi Purana*, and *Window Seat*, respectively. The actor is currently engaged in a film with veteran Nagathihalli Chandrashekar, and he has recently given the green light to debutant director Sachin Vaali's project.

The team recently initiated the project with a script pooja. Sharing some insights about the upcoming film, Sachin says, "We're bringing a family-oriented commercial entertainer that delves into the complexities of truth and falsehood. It's a film blending comedy and action, revolving around a social cause. We plan to start film shooting in January 2024."

While Nirup has been finalised as the lead actor, the team is currently in the process of selecting the rest of the cast. Produced by Ankit Sonigara for Ankket Cinemas, the film is co-produced by Prashant Mulage. The untitled film will have music by Sachin Basrur, art direction by Ullas Hydur, and cinematography by Sandeep Valluri.

Nirup Bhandari, SAchin Vaali, Ankit Sonigara

We're bringing a family-oriented commercial entertainer that delves into the complexities of truth and falsehood. It's a film blending comedy and action, revolving around a social cause.
— Sachin Vaali, director

The story of *Mayanagari* transcends time says Shravya Rao

CE FEATURES

ACTOR Shravya Rao is enthusiastic about playing diverse roles and feels excited about her upcoming film, *Mayanagari*. Ahead of its release this week, she expresses hope that such roles will bring new opportunities and recognition for her talent. "Intentionally exploring various roles is what keeps me passionate about my career," she shared.

Besides acting, Shravya has also delved into costume designing for Mayanagari. "Collaborating with director Shankar Aradhya added depth to my experience. I approached the directors with the idea of costume design for a standout song, and they wholeheartedly supported it," she revealed.

Describing her role as Mallika, Shravya painted her as more than just a character. "Mallika isn't just a persona. She's an enigmatic presence with layers of backstory and struggles, adding depth to the narrative," she explained.

Acknowledging the film's delay, she said, "The story's impact in *Mayanagari* transcends time. Its essence remains regardless of its release date. Every emotional portrayal, every challenge faced to play the character Mallika was a learning curve. In general, I prepare meticulously for every role I take on, aiming to deliver my best," emphasised Shravya, who was excited to perform stunts for the first time in Mayanagari. "Being part of some fight sequences was challenging, but I'm proud of the outcome," she says.

Shravya Rao

EFFECTIVE TWISTS UPLIFT THIS SUSPENSE THRILLER

A SHARADHAA

THE title *Marichi* is derived from the name of Lord Brahma and it offers a blend of ancient mythology and modern elements, much like this intriguing whodunnit film. The curiosity that was sparked by the title is effectively carried throughout the film.

The plot unravels a string of gruesome murders, targeting doctors with a chilling signature—a haunting trace of acid on their faces. With each crime, the tension heightens setting off an intense pursuit between law enforcement, headed by Bhairav Naik (Vijay Raghavendra), and the cold-blooded psychopath behind these killings. The killer's sneering clues amplify the suspense, keeping the audience on edge, eagerly anticipating the next scene.

Director Siddhruv weaves an intricate tale with this gripping crime suspense thriller, intertwining elements of tragic romance, gender-based violence, psychological trauma, and a quest for vengeance throughout the narrative.

MARICHI
Director: Siddhruv
Cast: Vijay Raghavendra, Sonu Gowda, Gopal Kirshna Deshpande

However, the film's final hour draws criticism for taking on the tone of a conventional revenge drama, diluting its initial whodunnit appeal. Albeit this shift, Siddhruv's debut directorial effort showcases promise and craftsmanship.

Despite the genre's familiarity and the borderline cliched roles, Vijay Raghavendra manages to infuse fresh air into his portrayal. His rendition of the investigator is marked by a refined and composed demeanour, steering clear of clichés often associated with such characters. Gopal Deshpande, though with limited screen time, steals the spotlight. Despite her limited portrayal, Sonu Gowda's character becomes instrumental in unravelling the mystery. However, the supporting cast falls short, failing to match the performance of the lead cast.

Judah Sandhy's music creates an eerie ambience that complements the tension-filled storyline. Manohar Joshi's cinematography captures the mysterious aura surrounding the murders. The editing, while commendable in the first part, loses its impact eventually as the story progresses.

Despite the film's few drawbacks, Siddhrurv's competent direction balances suspense and character arcs, making *Marichi* a gripping watch for thriller enthusiasts.

RATING 3/5

Entanglement of love, laughter, and political banter

A SHARADHAA

BEYOND its romantic facade, *Politics Kalyana* deftly employs its political backdrop to humorously critique real-world politics and addresses serious issues with a light-hearted touch. Interestingly, a film co-produced with the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), and directed by Kavi Rajesh sharply focuses on individuals' political obsession and relentless pursuit of power. Shot predominantly at a singular location, this narrative unfolds within the confines of Thimmakka Patel Venkatappa Kalyana Mantapa.

RATING 2.5/5

At its core, the narrative revolves around a young couple, portrayed by Pankaj Narayan and Sasya Kanchu, thrust into a whirlwind of political tensions. Despite their deep affection, their fathers harbour a longstanding feud, adding complexity to their relationship. The ensuing tale unravels in a series of heartwarming and uproarious situations. The story kicks off with Sadanand (Hanumanthe Gowda), a politician, arranging his daughter Preethi's (Sasya) wedding to Premanand (Pankaj Narayan). However, the irony emerges as Sadanand relies on Kabinipathi (Chidanand), a marriage contractor with no control over the events unfolding in the kitchen or the reception hall, to handle the preparations. Mahananda (Shankar Ashwath), a former MLA from Hubli, enters the marriage hall with his son Premanand, setting off a chain of events instigated by Mahananda's sister, Asha, aimed at halting the wedding.

Amidst the wedding preparations, political ambitions come to the fore as Sadanand plans to contest from the Hubli constituency. Despite Mahananda's efforts to dissuade him, the wedding is called off. The fate of Preethi and Premanand becomes the focal point of Politics Kalyana.

The story intricately weaves together the realms of love and politics in this moderately paced romantic comedy. Director Kavi Rajesh navigates the challenges arising from blossoming love amidst the enduring rivalry between two political families. The director adeptly balances romance and political satire, although smoother pacing would have enhanced the film's narrative. Nevertheless, the engaging screenplay, sharp dialogues, and unforeseen twists engage the audience.

The film's strength lies in its absence of violence, providing a platform to witness a consortium of seasoned actors on screen. Pankaj, the son of director S Narayan, makes his return to the silver screen. While displaying his acting skills, he could refine his dialogue delivery. The dialogues delivered by Girija Lokesh convey poignant messages to politicians. V Manohar, portraying the head of a wedding orchestra, impresses with his performance. Shankar Ashwath and V Manohar shine as the feuding fathers, infusing humour without overshadowing the central love story. Contributions from Mimicry Gopi and Nischitha Shetty enhance the film's entertainment quotient with additional comedic relief.

Melodious songs and a poignant background score complement the narrative, enriched by JM Prahlad's lyrical depth. Politics Kalyana emerges as a compelling cinematic concoction of romance, comedy, and political satire. Kavi Rajesh, supported by an ensemble of seasoned artistes, delivers a film that entertains while provoking contemplation. A recommended watch for those seeking laughter intertwined with social commentary.

POLITICS KALYANA
Director: Kavi Rajesh
Cast: Hanumanthe Gowda, V Manohar, Girija Lokesh, Nagendra Shah, Pankaj Narayan, Sasya, Shankar Ashwath, Chidanand, and Mimicry Gopi